



い ち げ き 4

原作・永井義男
松本次郎

い ち げ き

4



松本次郎
原作・永井義男

人物紹介



前之助

薩摩藩士。伊牟田に可愛がられていた。



伊牟田

御用盗を取り仕切る薩摩藩士の一人。



海江田

一撃必殺隊に対処するために呼ばれた薩摩藩士。凄腕。



相楽

幕府を挑発するために不逞浪士を雇い、御用盗を指揮する。

一撃必殺隊

梅吉
上合塚村出身

和三郎
大宮村出身

市造
土小岩村出身。侍への憧れが人一倍強い。丑五郎とは大猿の仲。

源治
小倉新田出身

新平
花文村出身

丑五郎
東之江村出身。小柄ながら抜群の身体能力を誇り、頭の回転も速い。

千代松
伊興村出身。海江田率いる薩摩藩士に捕まり自ら死を遂げる。

米吉
鹿骨村出身。丑五郎の弟分。並々ならぬ巨魁の持ち主。大食漢。



勝海舟

旗本。百姓を組織化することを発案した。



和田六郎

元新選組隊士。島田とともに隊士を鍛える。



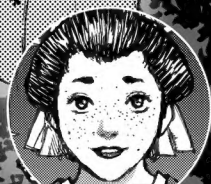
島田幸之介

元新選組隊士。一撃必殺隊の訓練を担当する。



与吉

一撃必殺隊隊士の世話をする下男。



お園

丑五郎の馴染みの女郎。

これまでのあらすじ
丑五郎ら力自慢の百姓で構成された「一撃必殺隊」は、その恐るべき剛剣で「御用盗」を徹底的に粉砕した。しかし薩摩藩の諜報により、隊士たちの馴染みの女郎屋が漏洩、急襲される。何とか逃げのびた丑五郎たちだったが、別行動を取っていた千代松が捕まってしまふ。一撃必殺隊の情報が洩れることを恐れ、千代松の救出ではなく殺害を決心した隊士たちだったが、皮肉にも千代松は仲間を救うために自ら命を絶つ。また追い打ちをかけるように丑五郎の出身村が襲撃を受け、最愛の妹・チヨが斬殺されてしまふ……


いちげき 4

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CHAPTER 20: CONFESSION

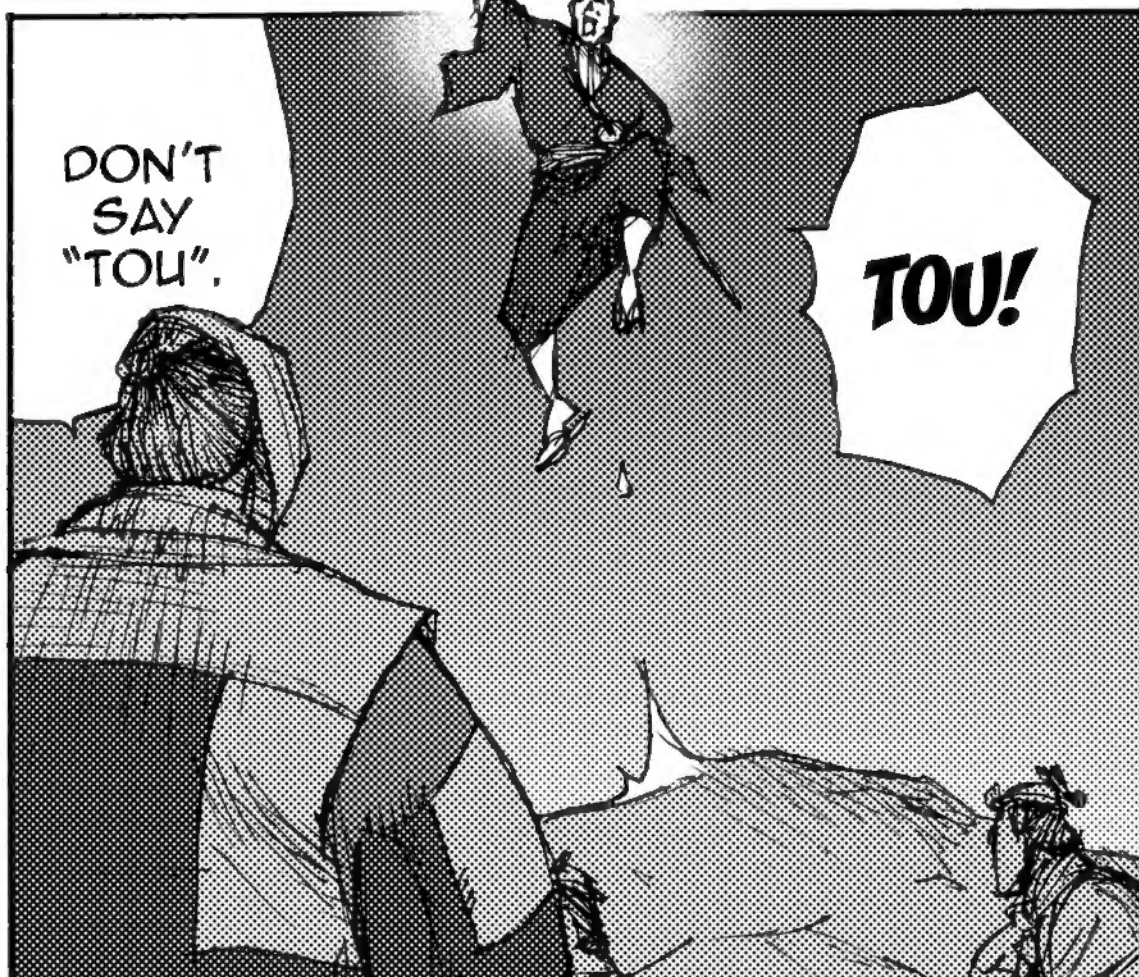




**FOR PEASANTS
LIKE YOURSELVES
TO ATTACK A
SAMURAI...**



**YOU THINK OF
YOURSELVES
TOO HIGHLY!**



SFX:
Whoosh

SFX:
Thump



**CLEAN
OUT YOUR
EARS AND
LISTEN
UP!**

**HAAH?
COULDN'T
YA HEAR
ME?**



**WHAT'S
THE
IDEA!?**

**TRYIN'
TO ACT
COOL...**



**IT'S A
HUNDRED
YEARS TOO
EARLY FOR
PEASANTS
LIKE YOUR-
SELVES TO
STAND UP
TO US!**

**SHORTY
AND I ARE
SAMURAI!**



SFX:
Bahaha
haha



NEVER HEARD SUCH A STUPID THING!



SFX:
Hyaha
haha



YOUR HEAD'S GONE FUNNY FROM HAVIN' NOTHIN' TO EAT!

FOR A PEASANT PUNK WITH NO RICE PADDY TO BE A SAMURAI!?



TRYIN' TO
BE TOUGH
WITH A
SWORD ON
YOUR WAIST.
IF THE GOV-
ERNMENT
CATCHES YA,
YOU'RE NOT
GONNA BE
LET OFF
EASY!

QUIT IT
WITH THE
"BE-
COME"!



WE WERE
ABLE TO
BECOME
SAMU-
RAI!

NO...
LISTEN
TO ME...



WE'LL TAKE
ICHIZOU
WITH US
TO THE
SATSUMA!

COME TO
THINK OF IT,
THIS GUY
IS GOIN'
AROUND
WITH USHI-
GOROU
AND DOIN'
SOME
SHADY
JOBS!



LET'S
TAKE HIM
DOWN!

SO, IT'S
SETTLED.

IF WE
BRING BOTH
OF THEM,
WE MIGHT
EVEN GET A
REWARD!

HUH
!?

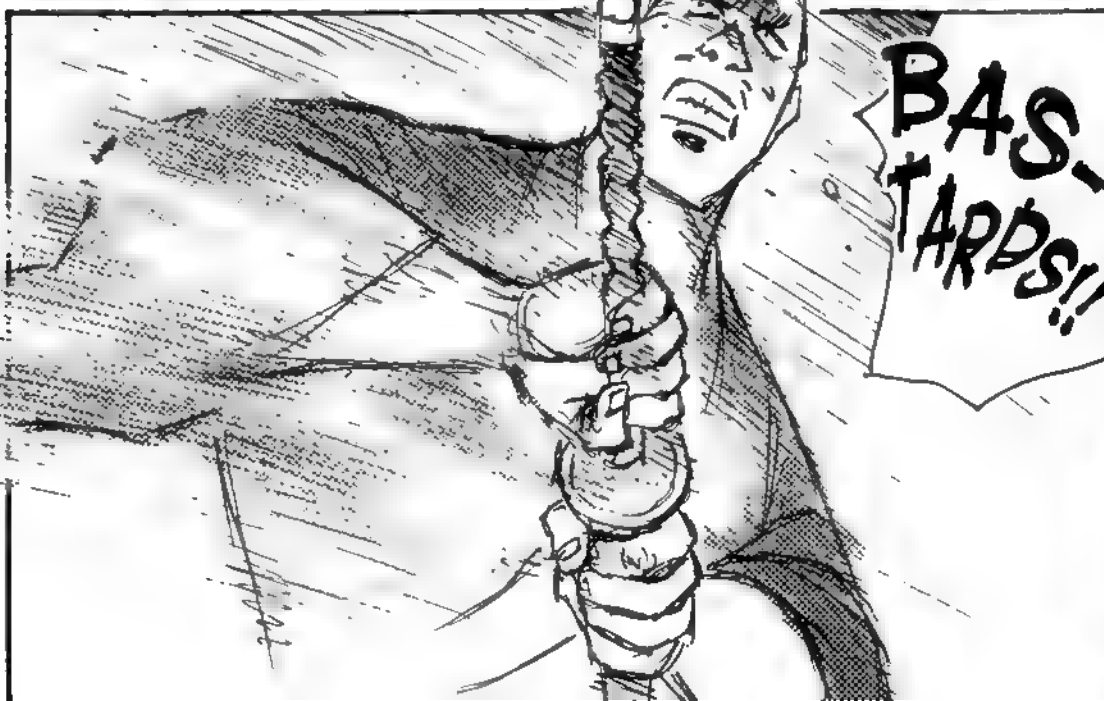


SFX:
Running

SFX:
clack



SFX:
Fwoom,
step



SFX:
SLASH,
thunk



SFX:
shing,
whish,
crack





THIS GUY'S
HOLDIN'
A REAL
SWORD!

IT'S
REAL!



HIII!

SFX:
whoosh



Clack



SFX:
clink,
whoosh,
fwoosh



GU!

SFX:
Clunk

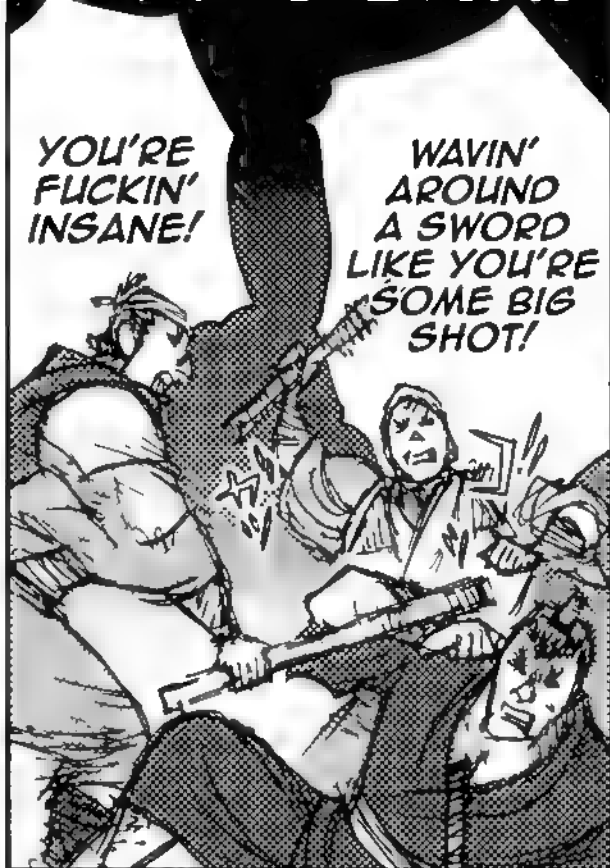


HOW'S
THAT!?

**YOU'RE
FUCKIN'
INSANE!**

**WAVIN'
AROUND
A SWORD
LIKE YOU'RE
SOME BIG
SHOT!**

SFX:
Whack
smack



NOW!

YEOWCH!



SFX:
Swing

**CUT IT
OUT!**

WOAH!



**YOU'RE
GONNA GET
CAPTURED
AT THIS
RATE!**

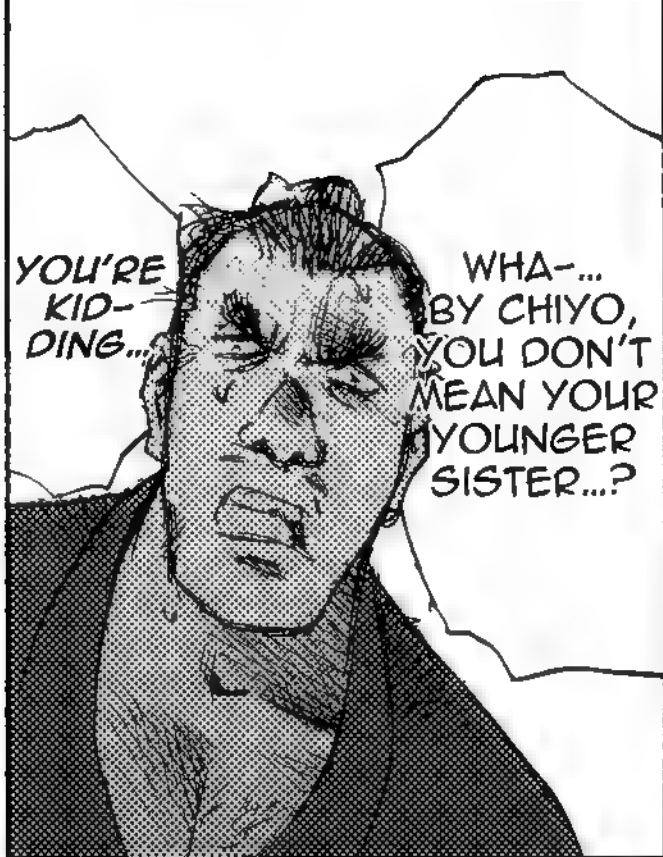
**WHAT ARE
YA DOIN'
USHI-
GOROU!?**

LUH...



SFX:
Pash





**YOU'RE
KID-
DING...**

**WHA-...
BY CHIYO,
YOU DON'T
MEAN YOUR
YOUNGER
SISTER...?**



**WHAT
DID
YOU
SAY!?**

**WE NEED
TO GET...
CHIYO'S
BODY AT
LEAST...**



**GIVE
IT UP
USHI!
WE AIN'T
GOT TIME
FOR THAT!**



**I'LL CUT
YA TA'
BITS!**

HII!

**MOVE,
YA BAS-
TARDS!**



TCH!

**CALL FOR
HELP!**

OU!



**WE
GOTTA
RUN!**

**SFX:
Clanging**



SFX:
Hoot



SFX:
Hoot,
hoot



LOOKS
LIKE THE
FUCKERS
FROM THE
VILLAGE
GAVE UP.

THEY'RE
NOT FOL-
LOWIN' US
ANYMORE.

SFX:
Panting



THERE'S
NO WAY
THEY CAN
MATCH
OUR PACE
AFTER
ALL.

HEHE,

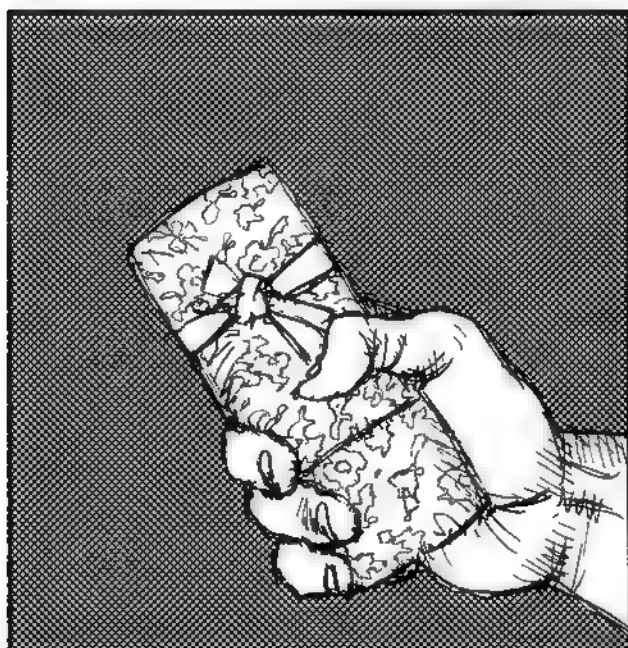


SFX:
Hoot



I'M
SURE THE
VILLAGERS
WILL AT
LEAST MAKE
A GRAVE
FOR HER.

RELAX,
USHI-
GOROU.



I KNOW
THAT
MUCH.

Shift

THIS WILL
GET YOU
MURA
HACHI.*



IT'S
ALL FOR
NOTHIN'
NOW.



IT'S A
COMB I
MEANT TO
GIVE TO
CHIYO.

A
COMB?

WHAT
THE
HELL'S
THAT?

Author notes –
Murahachi or
ostracism = The
breakdown of
the relationship
from village
society. Other
than firefighting
and funerals, the
village will not
take care of:
General care,
marriages,
construction,
health care,
water damage,
travel, childbirth,
or death
anniversaries



TCH!



IT'S NOT
LIKE IT'S
BAD OR
ANY
THING...

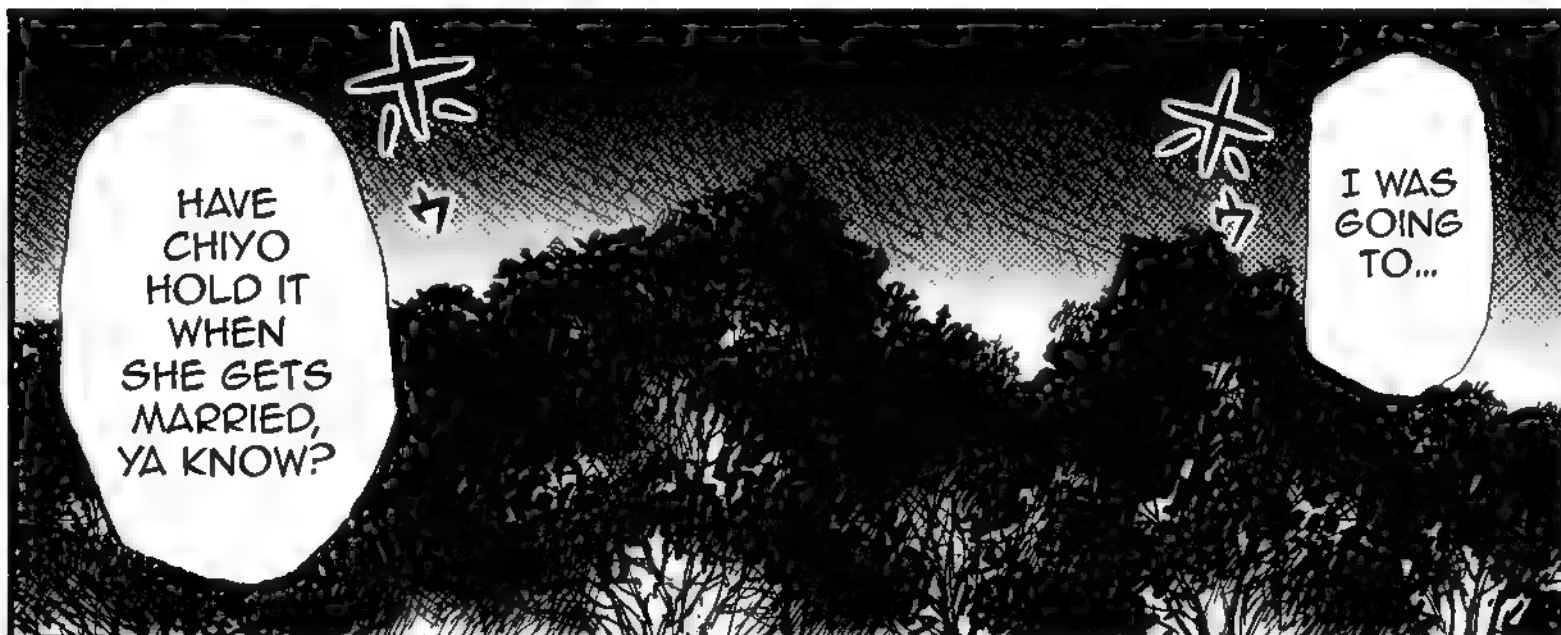
IT'S...



SO
WHAT!?

YOU WERE
GONNA GIVE
A COMB TO
YOUR LITTLE
SISTER?

PR/N —
Mikushi
azuke no
gi — In
Japanese
weddings,
a comb is
passed
from the
bride to
the groom
to show
that they
have
become
one



HAVE
CHIYO
HOLD IT
WHEN
SHE GETS
MARRIED,
YA KNOW?

I WAS
GOING
TO...



CHIYO
AND I
DON'T HAVE
THE SORT
OF RELA-
TIONSHIP
YOU GUYS
THINK WE
HAVE.

I'LL
SAY IT
NOW.

HAH?



BESIDES,
THERE'S
NO WAY

I
COULD
JUST
BUY IT
FOR
HER.







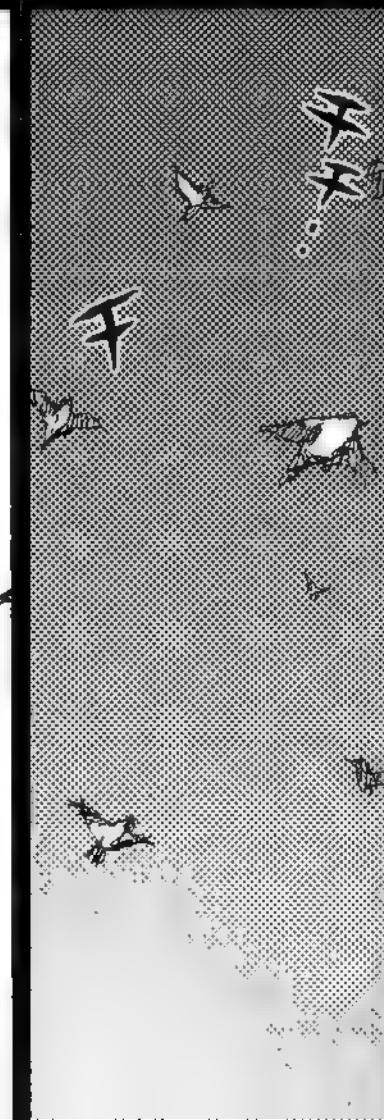
BIG
BROTHER
SHOULD
JUST STAY
THERE AND
BE QUIET
FOR A BIT.



I JUST
HAVE
TO BE
STRONG
FOR A
BIT.



SFX:
rustle



SFX:
Birds
tweeting



SFX:
rustle
rustle



SFX:
clatter



**ALL I WANTED
WAS TO HAVE
SOMETHING THAT
I COULDN'T
HAVE!**

**WHAT OTHER
CHOICE WAS
THERE!? WHAT
COULD I HAVE
DONE!?**



**CHIYO
WOULDN'T
HAVE HAD
TO GO
THROUGH
THAT!**



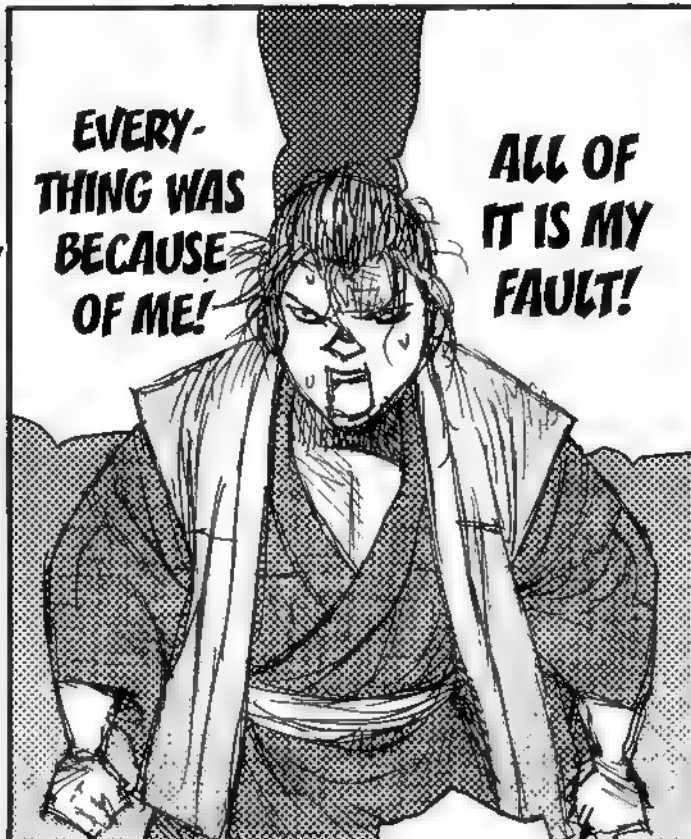
**INSTEAD
OF HOE...
IF I HAD A
SWORD.**

**CUT IT
OUT!**

**THAT'S
ENOUGH!**



**EVERY-
THING WAS
BECAUSE
OF ME!**



**ALL OF
IT IS MY
FAULT!**

**AND ALL
OF IT IS
BECAUSE
I'M A
PEASANT...**



**USHI-
GOROU!**

**THE REASON
YOU HAVE
NO LUCK
WITH THE
LADIES...**

**THE REASON
THE SAMURAI
ACT ALL
COCKY,**

**THE REASON
WHY THE
VILLAGERS
ARE ALL
IDIOTS,**

**ALL
OF IT IS
BECAUSE
OF ME!**





**JUST
GIVE ME
THE
SWORD!**

**AND
I SAID
WHY
SHOULD
I!?**



**WHY
SHOULD
I?**



**GIVE ME
YOUR
SWORD,
ICHIZOU!**



**IF I DIE,
THEN EVERY-
THING WILL
BE RIGHT
WITH THE
WORLD!**

**I'LL KILL
MYSELF
WITH THAT
SWORD!**



**FUCKING
SETTLE...**

**GIVE
ME THE
SWORD!**



**STOP
BEING SO
STUPID!**

**IF I DIE THEN
EVERYTHING
WILL BE
RESOLVED
AMICABLY!**

SFX:
Grab



SFX:
Crunch

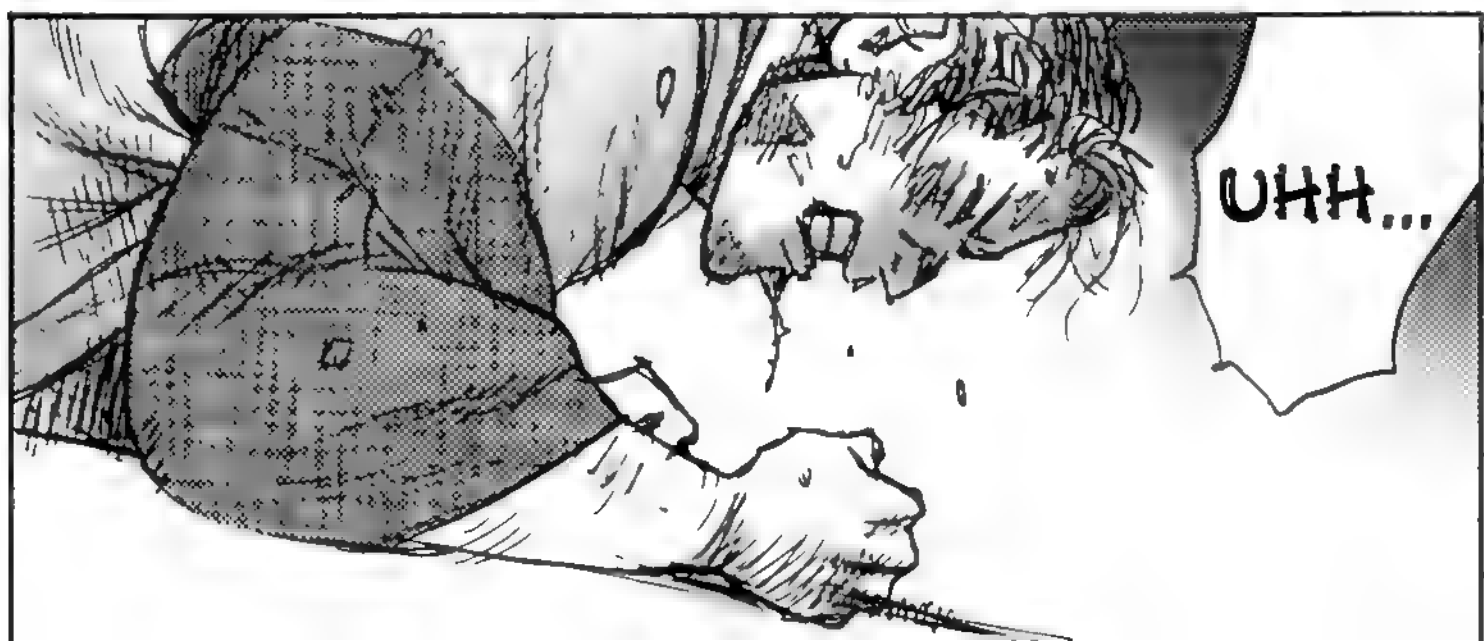
DOWN!



**THIS IS
NOT THE
TIME TO BE
COMPLAINING
ABOUT THAT
SHIT!**



SFX:
Crash



UHH...



I'VE LOST
MY HOME
AND MY
FAMILY...
EVERYONE'S
DISAP-
PEARED.

I...

RATHER
THAN
WHAT I
CAN
GAIN...



I CAN'T
POSSIBLY
APOLOGIZE
TO CHIYO
OR THE HAG
LIKE THIS!

NOT ONLY
THAT... I'M
THE ONLY
ONE LEFT
ALIVE...



SO
WHAT?



IF WE
LOSE
PEOPLE,
THEN I'M
IN DANGER
OF LOSING
MY LIFE.



WASN'T
BECAUSE
I THOUGHT
YOU WERE
CUTE OR
SOME-
THING.

THE
REASON I
STUCK MY
NECK OUT
TO SAVE
YOU



DON'T
FORGET
THAT!

YOU'RE A
WARRIOR,
PART OF
THE ONE
STRIKE,
ONE KILL
SQUAD.



IF YOUR
GONNA DIE,
THEN DIE
FOR THE
SAKE OF
THE ONE
STRIKE,
ONE KILL
SQUAD!

THE ONE
STRIKE,
ONE KILL
SQUAD IS
IN CHARGE
OF YOUR
LIFE.




WHETHER
OR NOT
YOU HAVE
A REASON
TO LIVE,

HAS
GOT
NOTHIN'
TO DO
WITH
ME!



**THEN
YOU'RE
JUST A
WORTHLESS
LOSER!**

**IF YOUR GONNA
KICK THE BUCKET
AFTER HAVING YOUR
FAMILY KILLED,
BEING CHASED OUT
OF THE VILLAGE,
AND DOING
NOTHING
ABOUT IT,**




**IF YOU'RE
A SAMURAI,
THEN YOU
SETTLE THAT
FIGHT!**

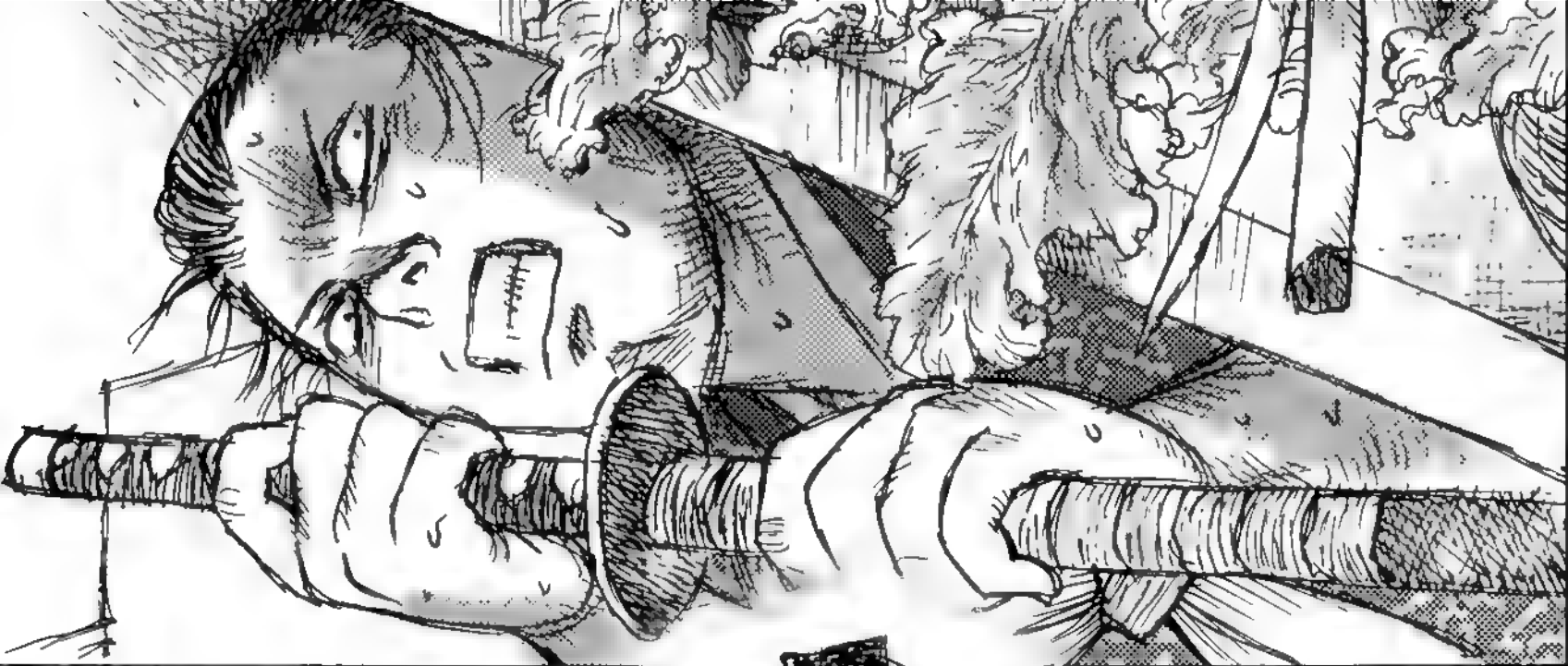


**AND NOT
GIVING THEM
WHAT THEY
DESERVE!?**

**DON'T YA FEEL
FRUSTRATED
ABOUT NOT
GOING TO THE
SATSUMA**



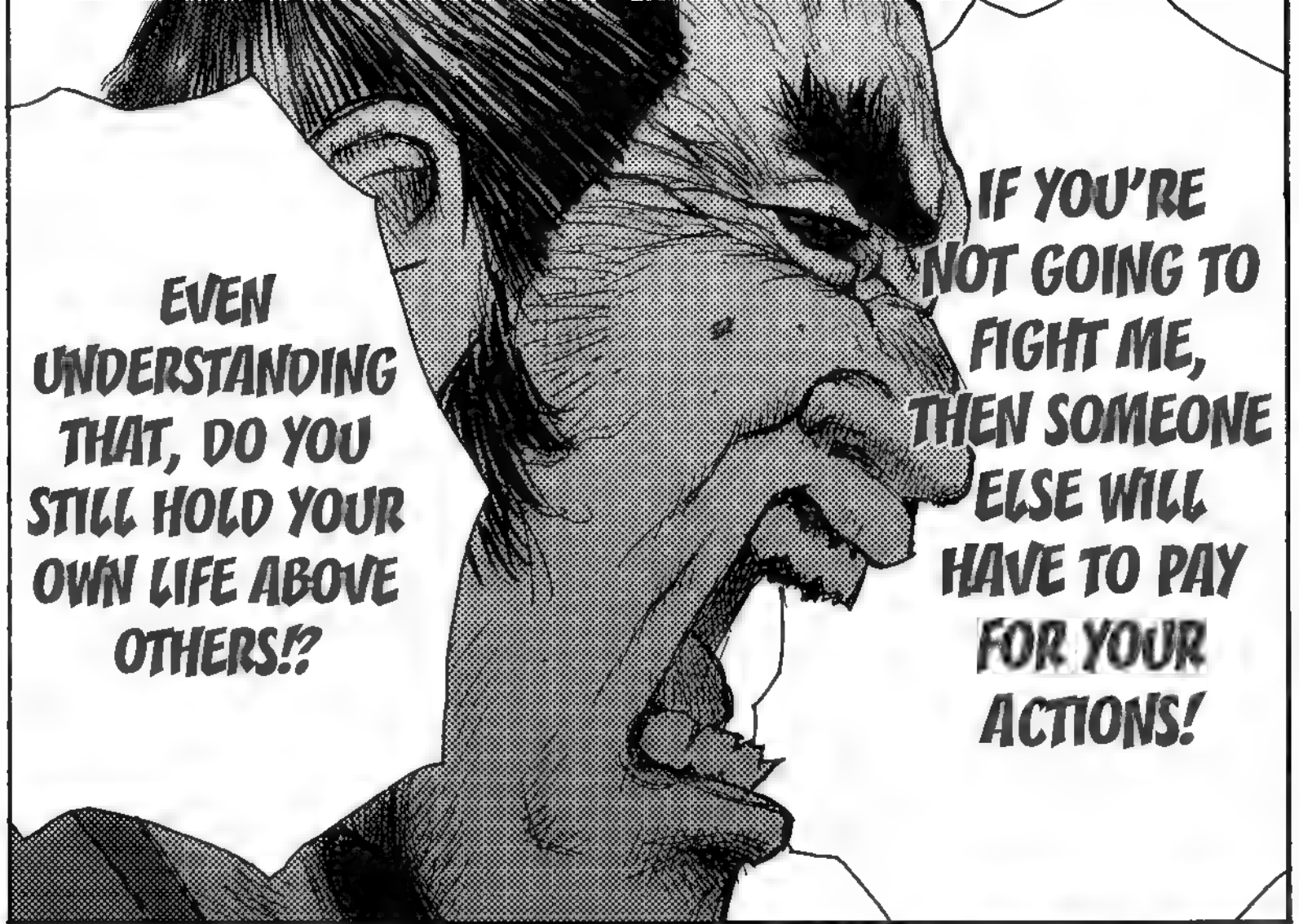
**FOR WHAT
REASON
DO YOU
NOW HOLD
A SWORD!?**



**FOR WHAT
REASON
DO YOU
NOW HOLD
A SWORD!?**

**HOW LONG
ARE YOU
GOING TO RUN
AROUND FOR!?
FACE ME,
USHIGOROU!**





**EVEN
UNDERSTANDING
THAT, DO YOU
STILL HOLD YOUR
OWN LIFE ABOVE
OTHERS!?**

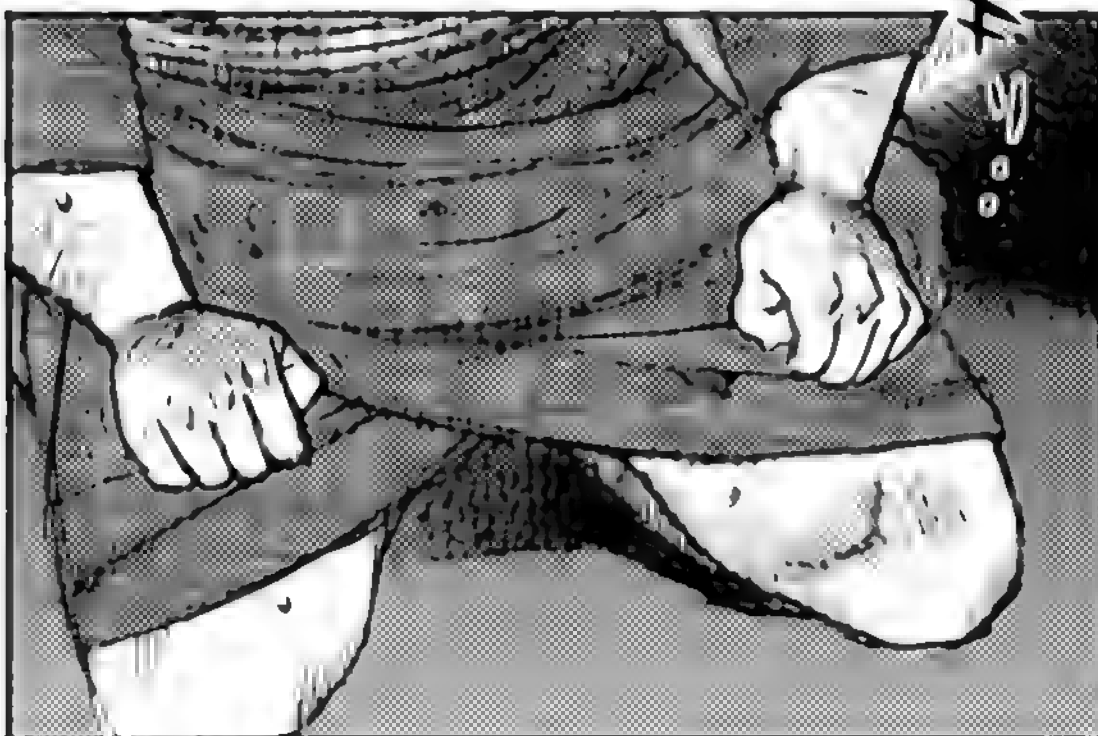
**IF YOU'RE
NOT GOING TO
FIGHT ME,
THEN SOMEONE
ELSE WILL
HAVE TO PAY
FOR YOUR
ACTIONS!**



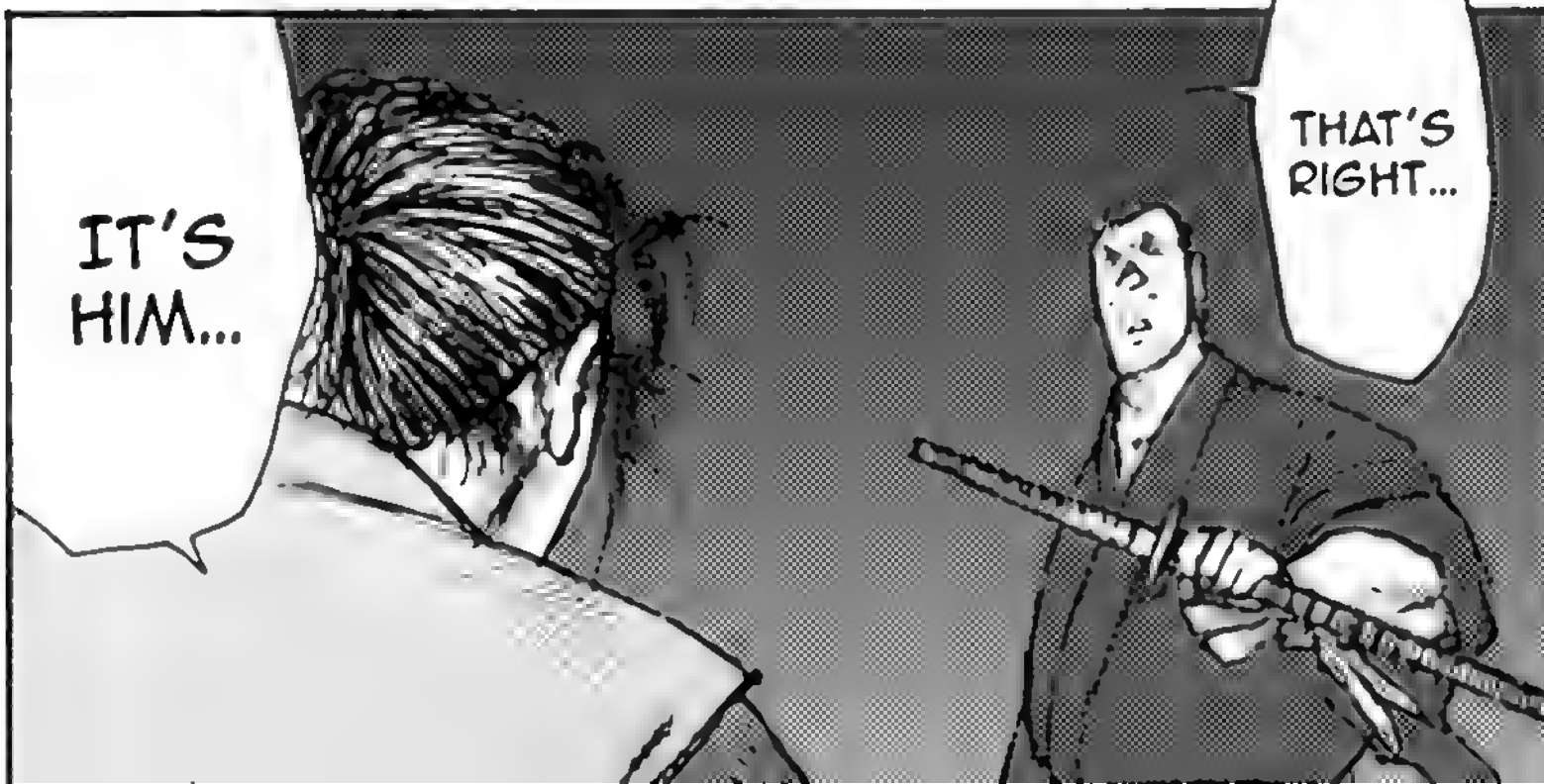
**YOU WILL
REGRET
THIS!**



**USHI-
GOROU!!**



SFX:
grp





USHI-
GOROU!



WHAT'S
HIM?

HUH?



WHAT
YOU
SAID IS
RIGHT.

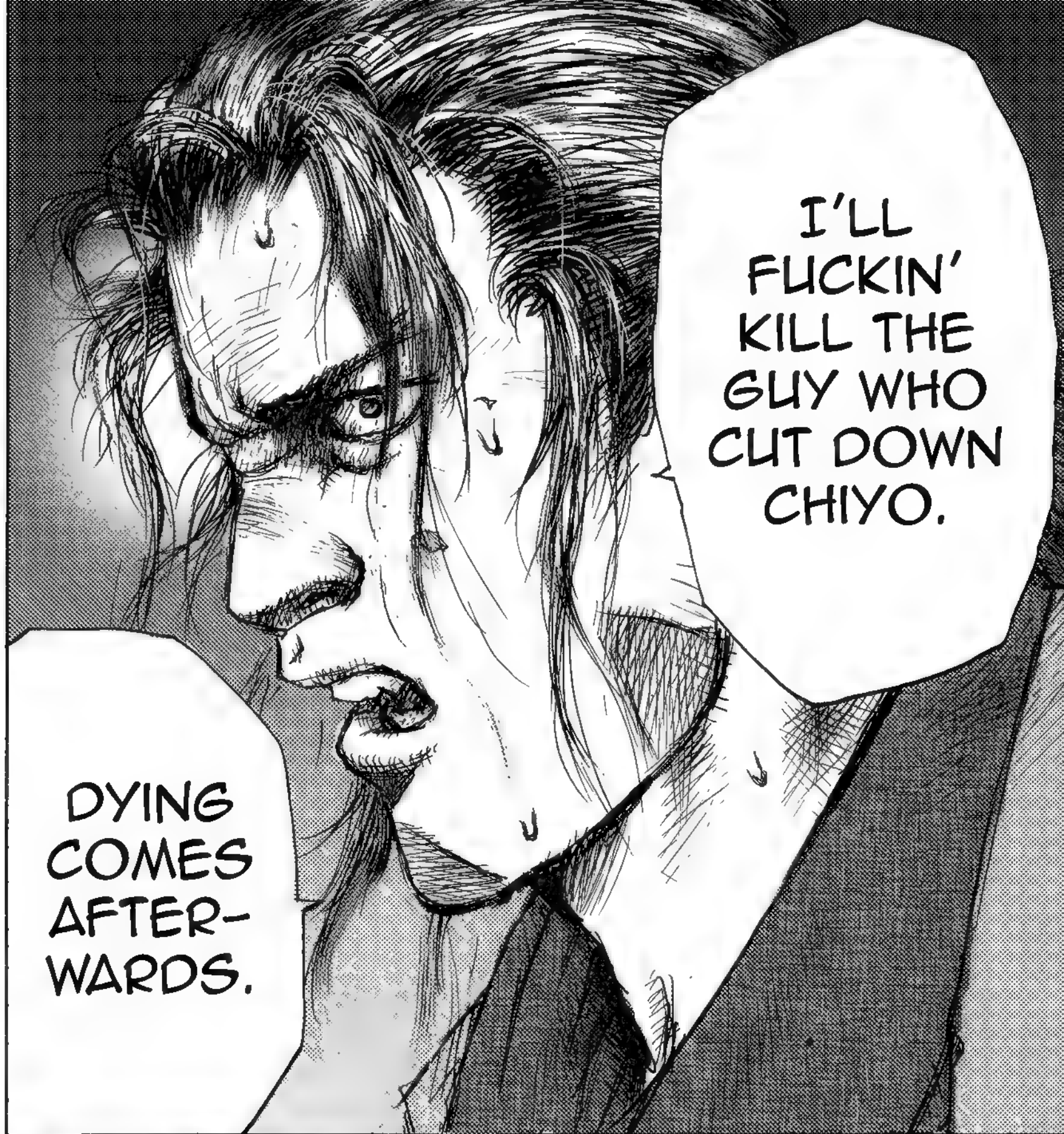
IF I
THINK
ABOUT
IT,



IT WON'T
CHANGE
THE FACT
THAT I
DIED.

IF I DIE
HERE, OR
DIE BY THE
HANDS
OF THE
SATSUMA,





I'LL
FUCKIN'
KILL THE
GUY WHO
CUT DOWN
CHIYO.

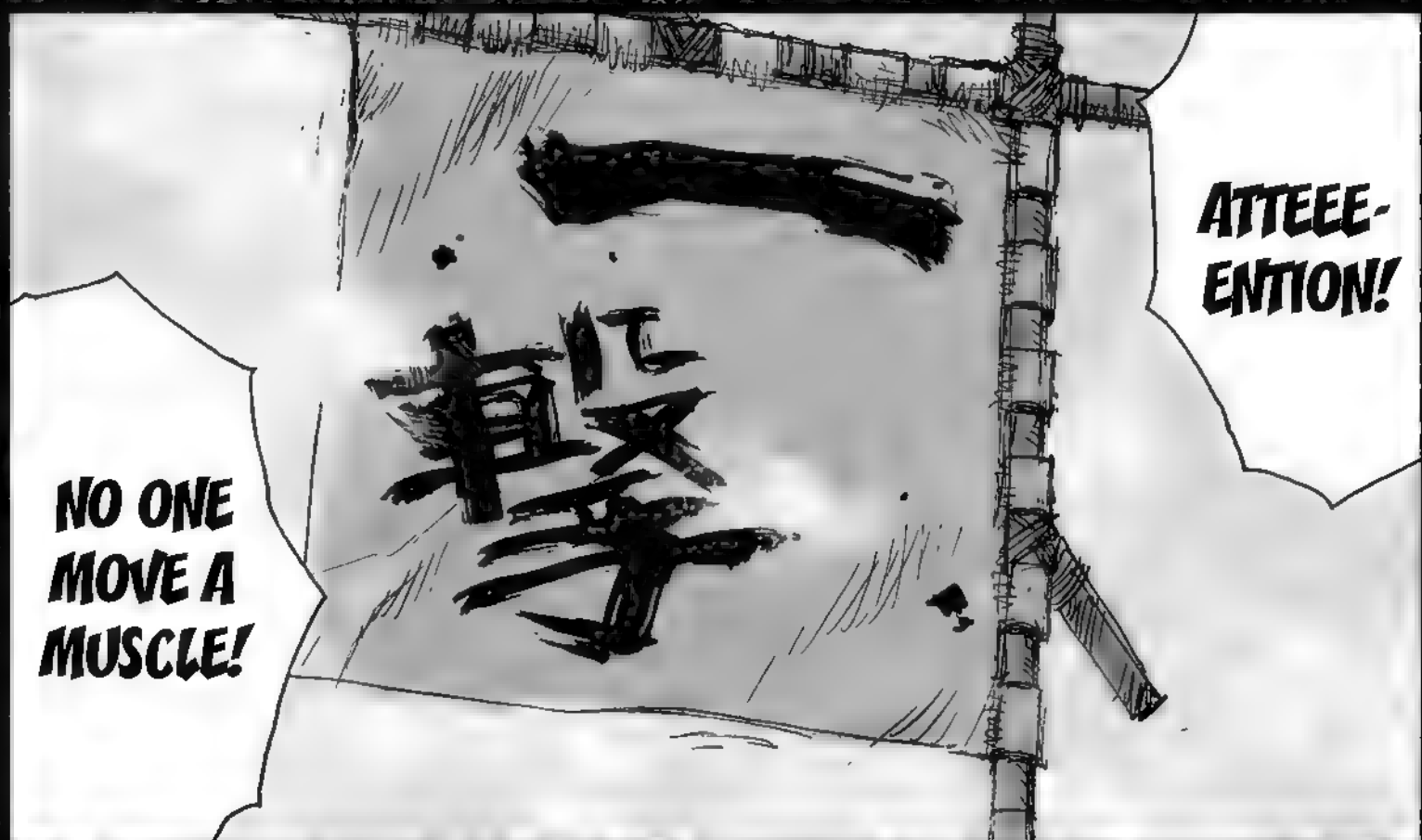
DYING
COMES
AFTER-
WARDS.

SFX:
Owl
hooting



CHAPTER 21: CAPITAL PUNISHMENT





**ATTEEE-
ENTION!**

**NO ONE
MOVE A
MUSCLE!**

On Flag:
Iohigeki!





EVERY-
ONE'S
HERE.

GOOD.



I WAS
THINKING
OF DIVIDING
THEM INTO
TWO GROUPS
TO DO
A MOCK
BATTLE.

NOW,
ABOUT
TODAY'S
TRAINING...

WE
SOMEHOW
MANAGED TO
MAKE IT TO
MORNING
ROLL CALL.



IT'LL BE
A GOOD
CHANGE
OF PACE.

I SEE...
UNTIL NOW
WE'VE
ONLY BEEN
PRACTICING
BASIC
SKILLS.





AFTER ALL,
YOU'LL
HAVE TO
DEAL WITH
A VARIETY
OF SITUA-
TIONS.

ONE SIDE
WILL HAVE
FEWER
NUMBERS TO
CREATE A
HANDICAP.

...



WELL, IT'S
AS YOU
HEARD!

DIVIDE
YOURSELVES
INTO TWO
GROUPS AND
LET'S START A
SIMULATED
BATTLE!



IT'LL
MAKE A
GOOD
DISTRAC-
TION.

LOOKS
LIKE WE'RE
DOING
MOCK
SWORD
FIGHTS.



AREN'T WE
FORGETTING
SOMETHING?

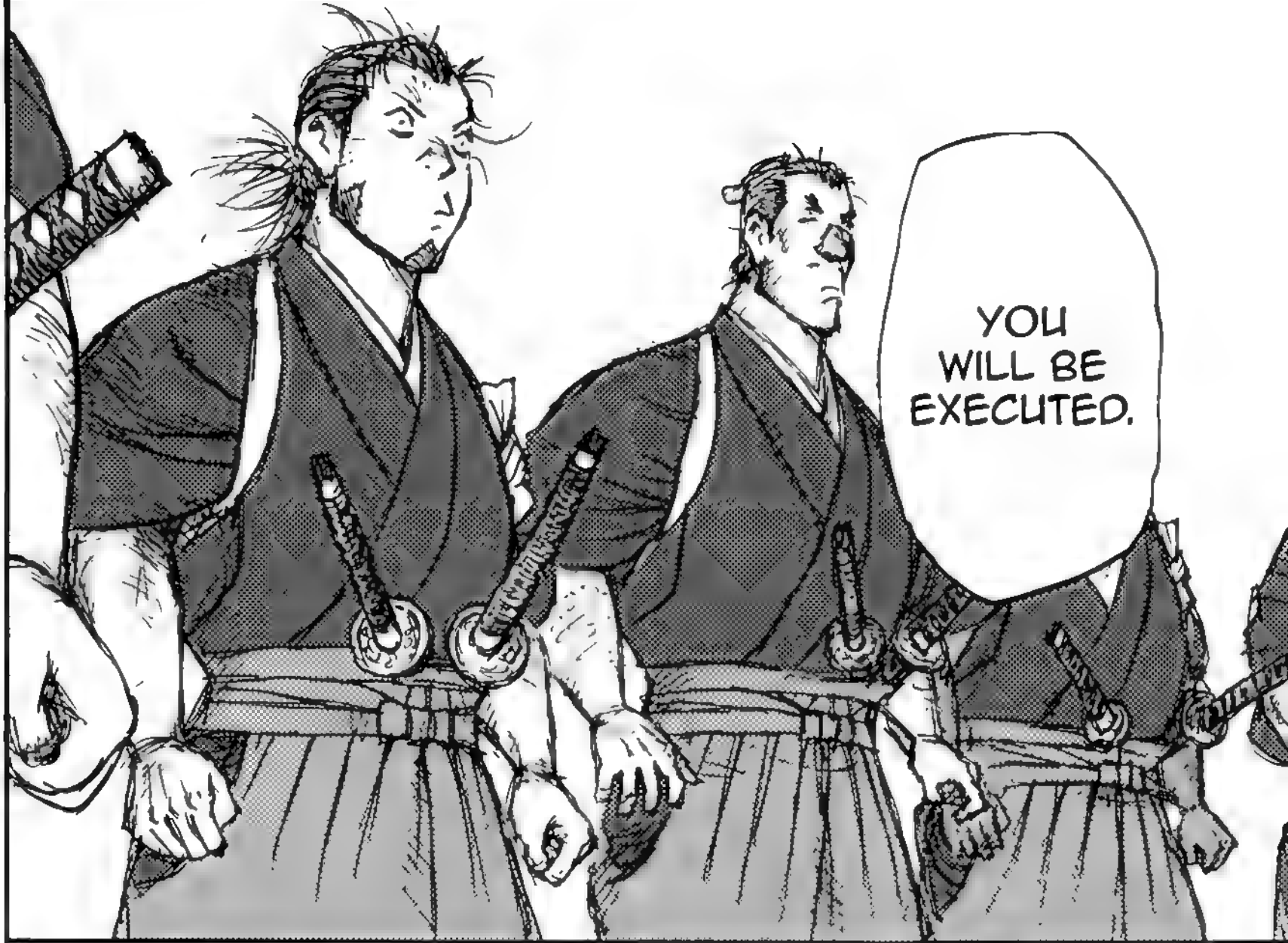


AH?



WAIT A
MOMENT.





YOU
WILL BE
EXECUTED.

SFX:
tweet
tweet...



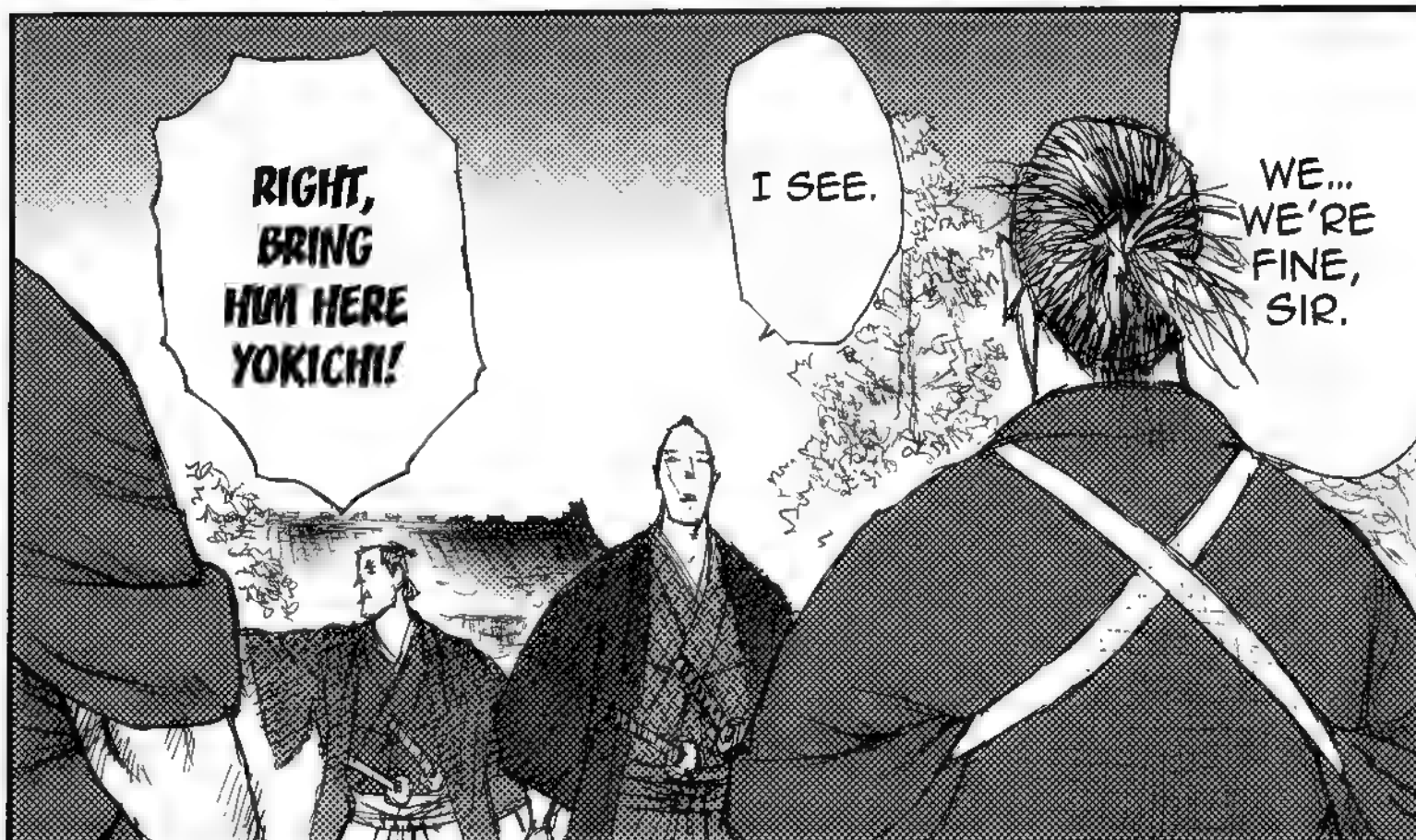
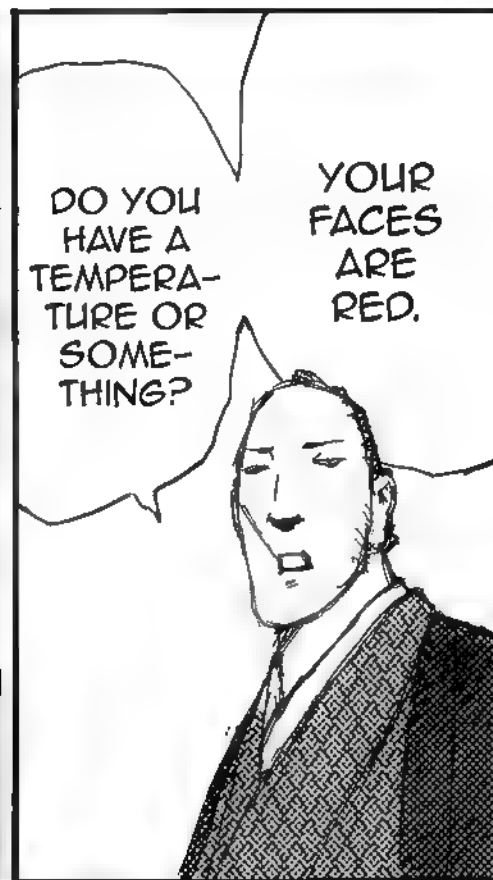
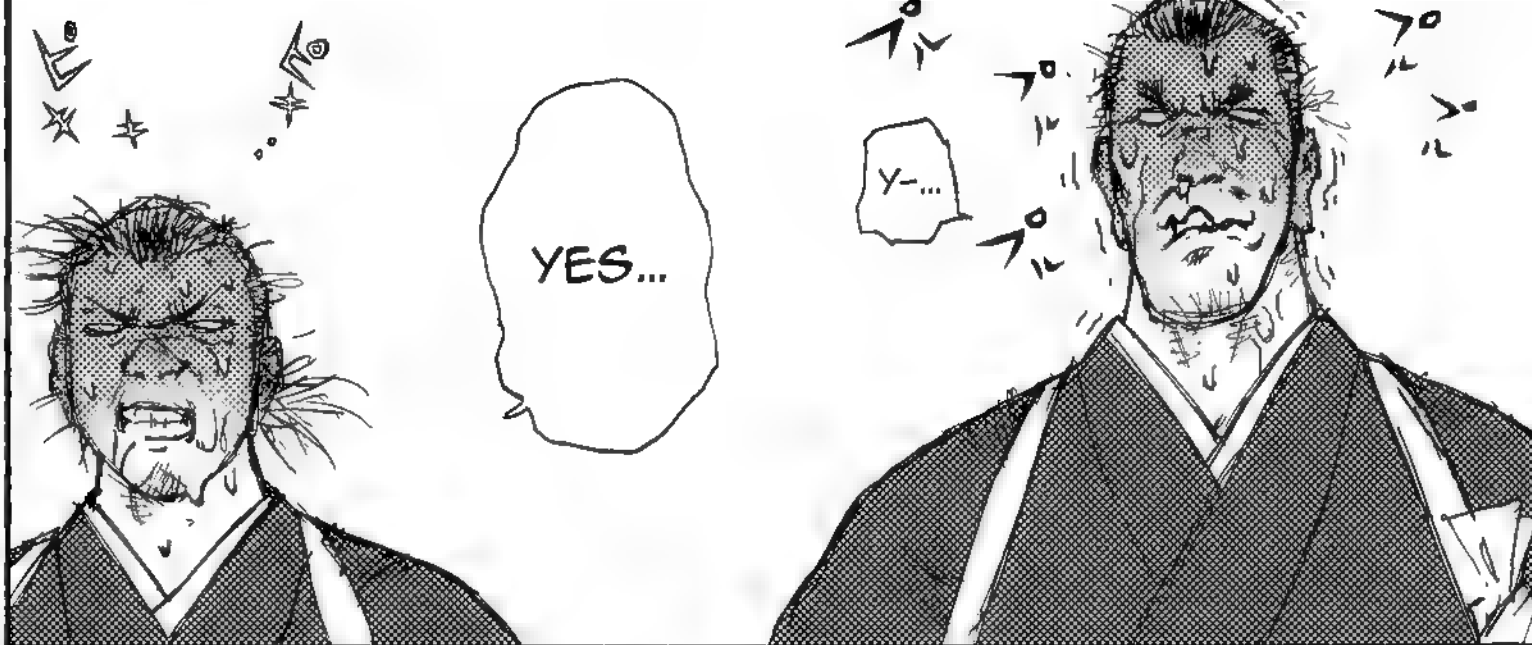
SFX:
Glare



ICHI-
ZOU.

USHI-
GOROU.

SFX:
Shaking,
Crick crick







IT'S THIS
GUY'S FAULT
THAT SIX OF
OUR HENCHMEN
ARE NO LONGER
USABLE...

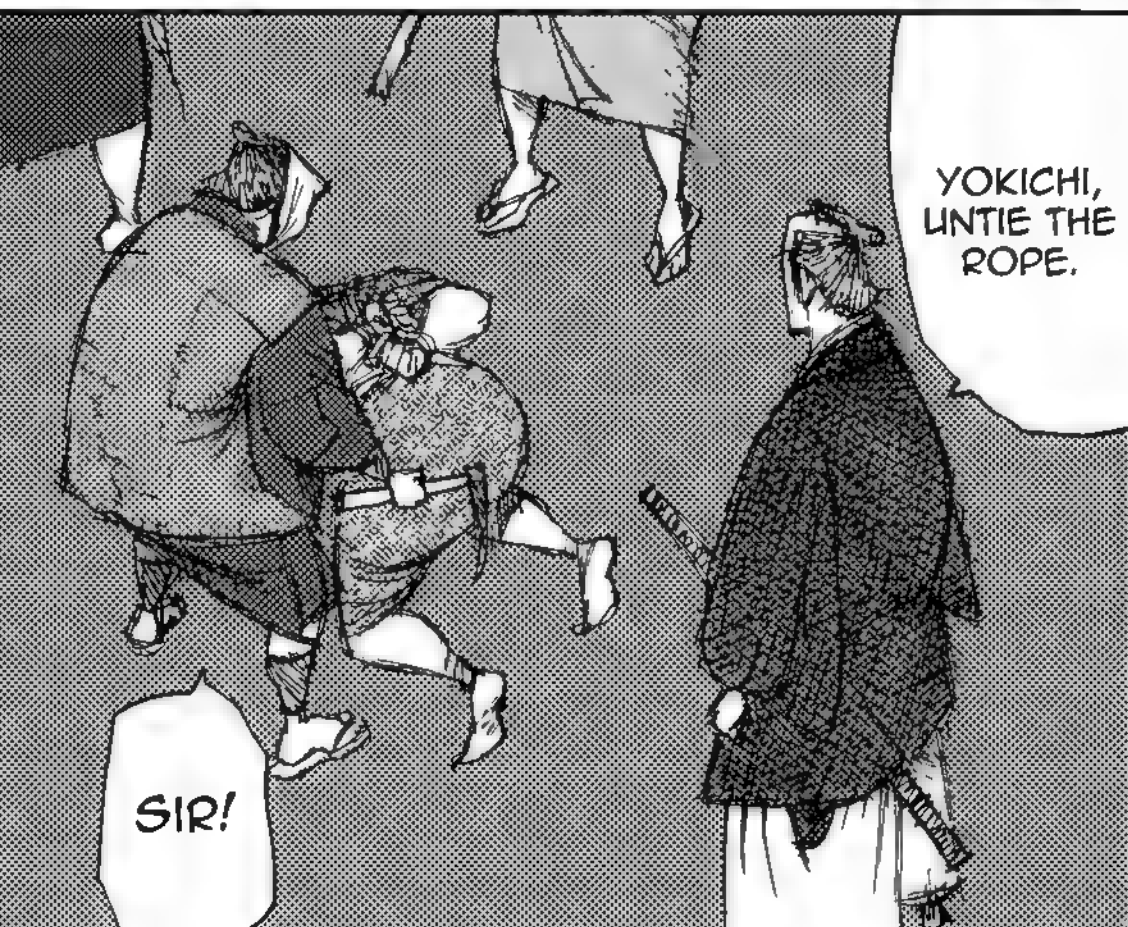


HEY,
CUT IT
OUT.

YOU
THOUGHT
YOU COULD
RUN AWAY,
YOU DAMN
PEASANT!?

THIS
BASTARD!
MAKING
US WORK
MORE!

SFX:
Bash,
crack



SIR!

YOKICHI,
UNTIE THE
ROPE.



TAKE
AS MUCH
AS YOU
NEED.

WE'LL
HAVE
YOU PAY
FOR THE
DOCTOR
AS
WELL.

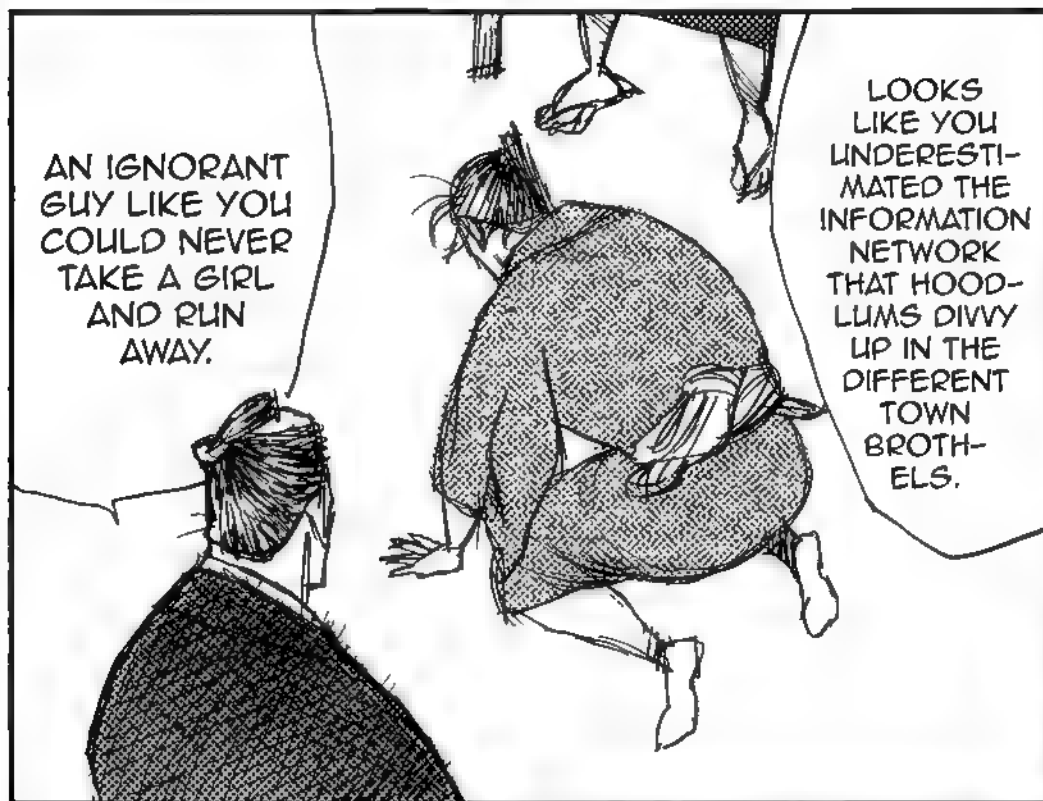


WHY DID
YOU TRY TO
RUN AWAY!?

U-UME-
KICHI.



UMEKICHI
ATTEMPTED
TO ELOPE
WITH ONE
OF IMURA'S
PROSTITUTES.

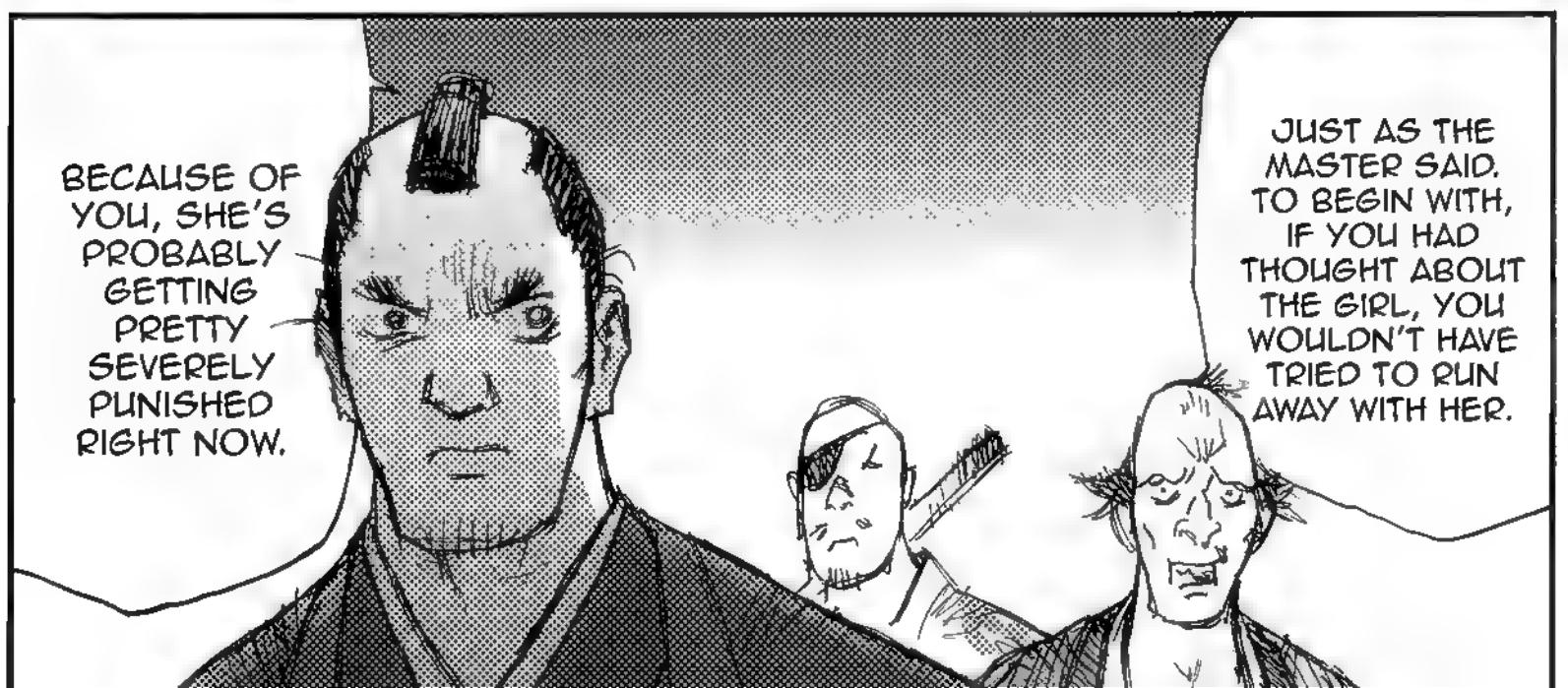


AN IGNORANT
GUY LIKE YOU
COULD NEVER
TAKE A GIRL
AND RUN
AWAY.

LOOKS
LIKE YOU
UNDERESTI-
MATED THE
INFORMATION
NETWORK
THAT HOOD-
LUMS DIVVY
UP IN THE
DIFFERENT
TOWN BROTH-
ELS.



WITH
OTAMA?



BECAUSE OF
YOU, SHE'S
PROBABLY
GETTING
PRETTY
SEVERELY
PUNISHED
RIGHT NOW.

JUST AS THE
MASTER SAID.
TO BEGIN WITH,
IF YOU HAD
THOUGHT ABOUT
THE GIRL, YOU
WOULDN'T HAVE
TRIED TO RUN
AWAY WITH HER.



SFX:
Splash,
Bubble

**YOU
BETTER LOOK
CAREFULLY,
SONO!**

**SHUT
UP!**

**OTAMA
IS GOING
TO DIE
AT THIS
RATE!**

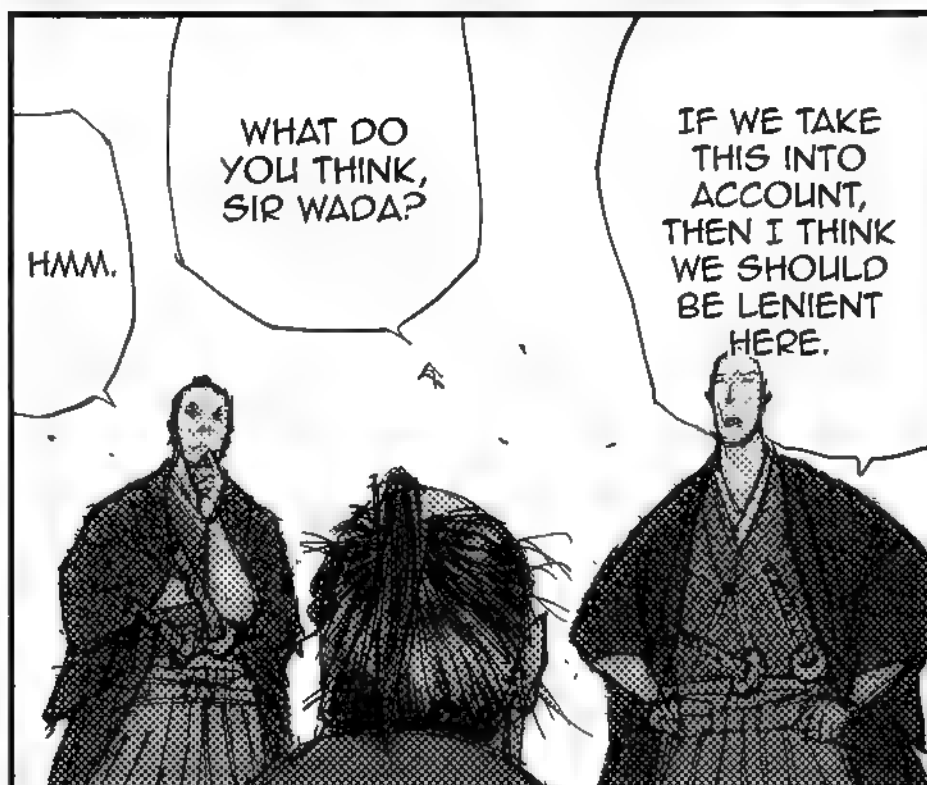
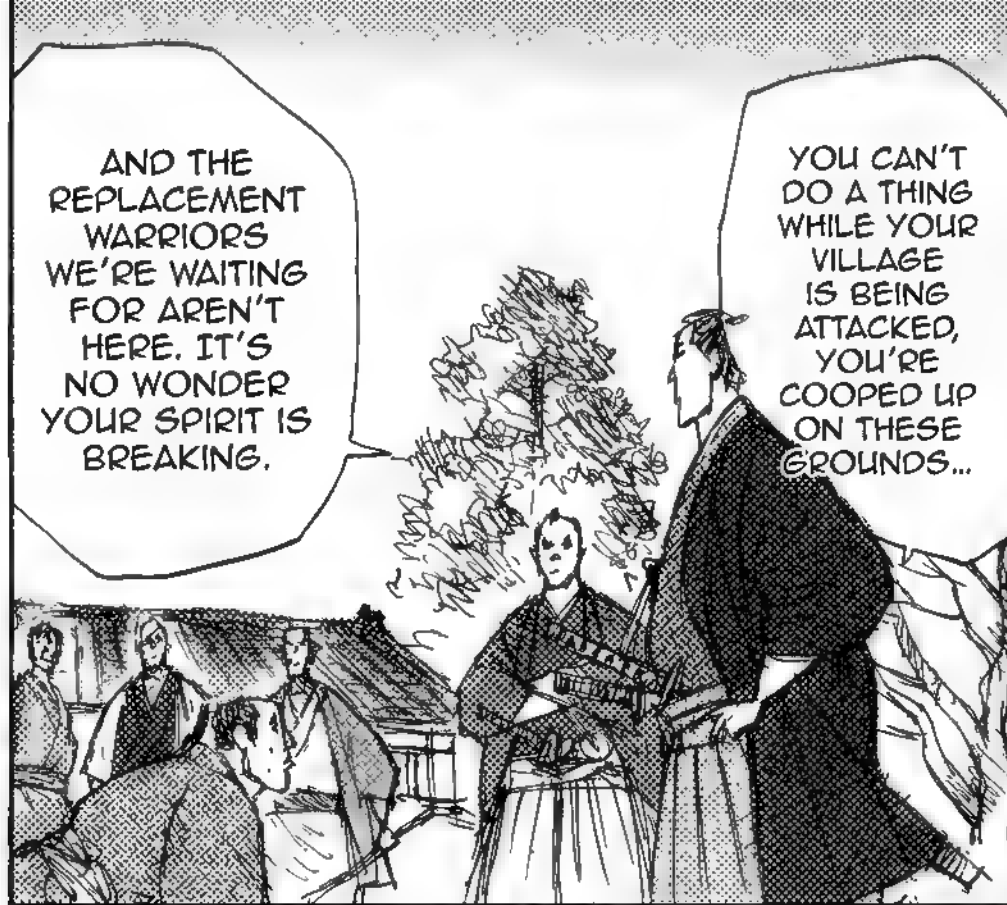
**PLEASE
STOP THIS!**

SFX:
Grab

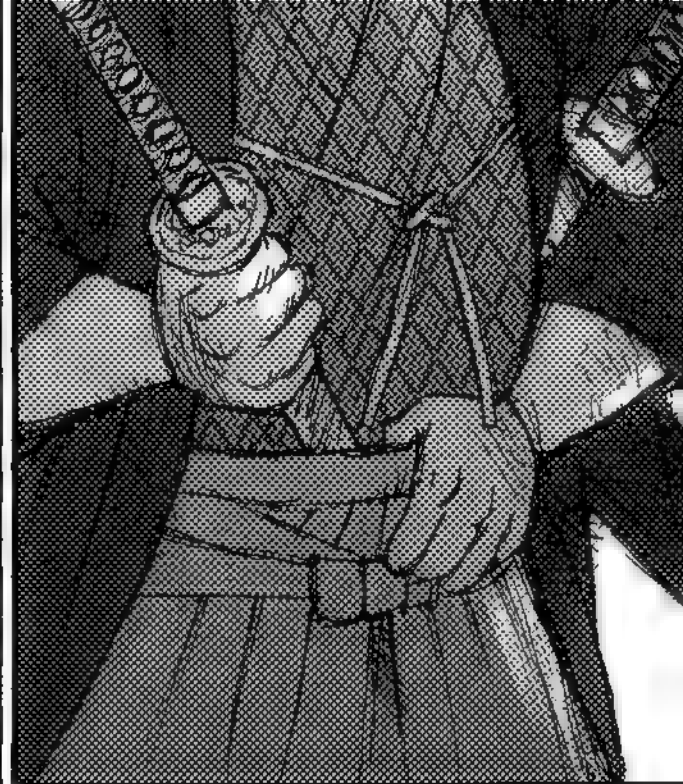
**YOU'LL
END UP
JUST LIKE
HER IF
YOU DO!**

**I WON'T
TOLERATE
ANYONE
RUNNING
AWAY!**





SFX:
Clatter



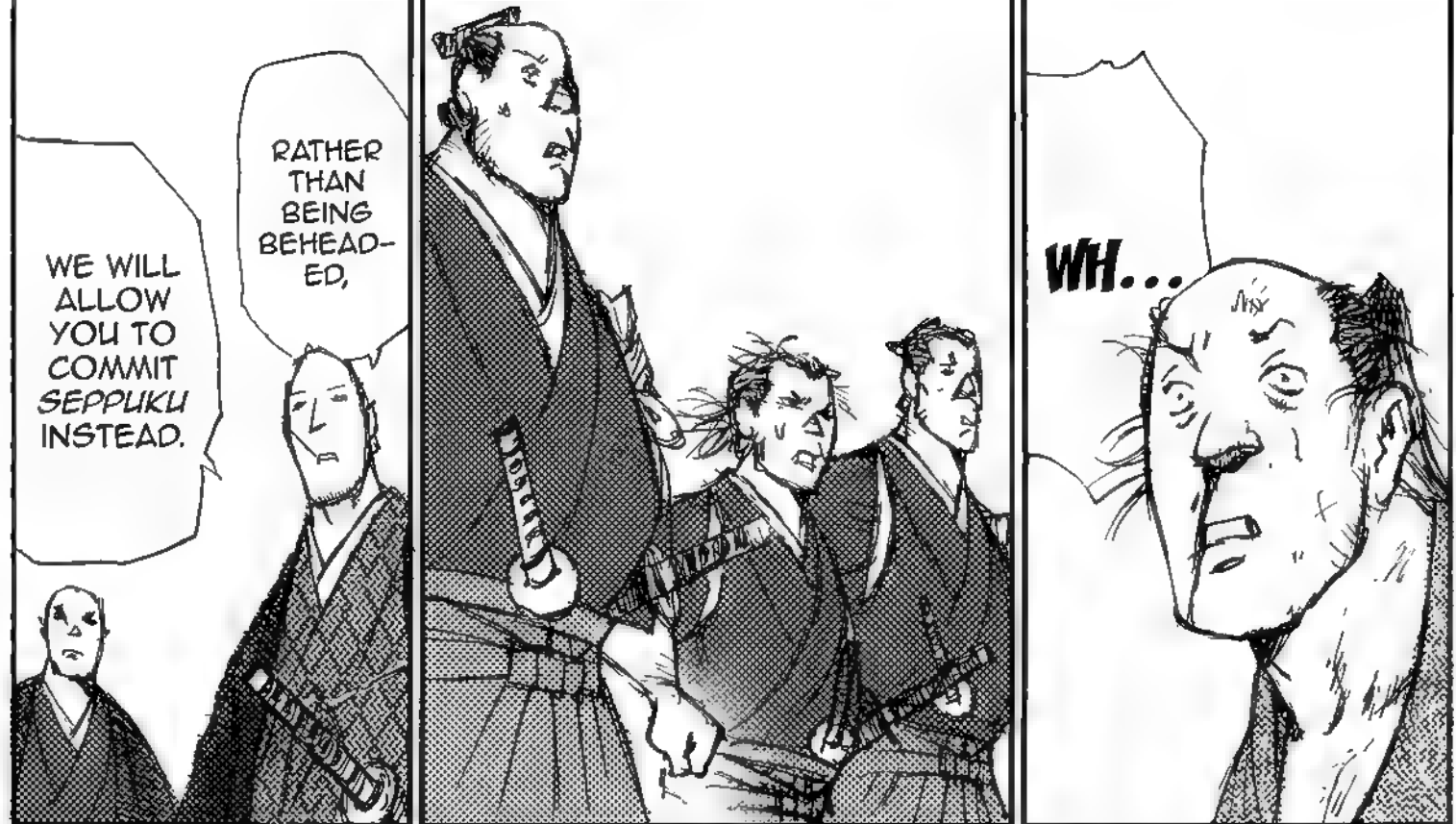
USE THAT
WAKIZASHI,
UMEKICHI.

I WILL
ALLOW YOU
TO COMMIT
SEPPUKU.

THIS IS A
WARRIOR'S
COMPAS-
SION.



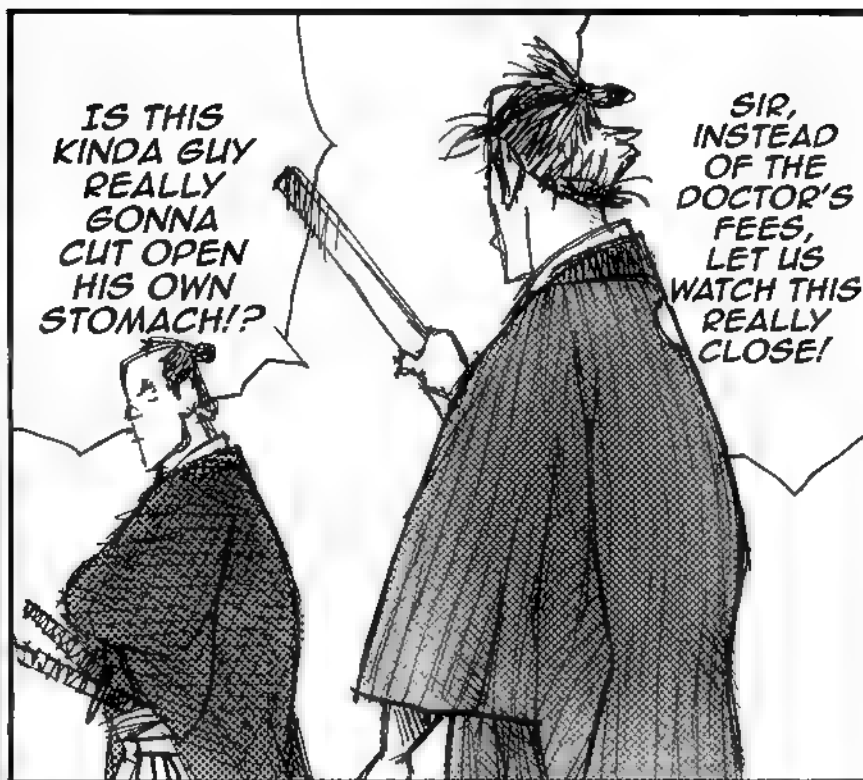
T/N:
Seppuku.
Ritual
suicide
usually
performed
by samurai.
Rather than
being killed
by one's
enemy,
samurai will
often kill
themselves
by slicing
open their
stomachs
to preserve
their honor.
Another
person will
usually
behead the
samurai
before they
feel too
much pain.
Peasants
like
Umekichi
are rarely,
if ever,
given an
opportunity
to commit
seppuku.





OUR ONE
STRIKE SPECIAL
SQUAD HASN'T
A SINGLE
COWARD WHO
WOULDN'T
BE ABLE TO
CUT OPEN
THEIR OWN
STOMACH!

HOW DARE
YOU, YOU
THUG!



IS THIS
KINDA GUY
REALLY
GONNA
CUT OPEN
HIS OWN
STOMACH!?

SIR,
INSTEAD
OF THE
DOCTOR'S
FEES,
LET US
WATCH THIS
REALLY
CLOSE!



GIVE US A
GRAND SEPPUKU,
AND PROTECT THE
HONOR OF THE ONE
STRIKE SPECIAL
SQUAD!

THIS IS THE
PERFECT
OPPORTUNITY
TO RESTORE
YOUR DIGNITY,
UMEKICHI!



I CAN'T
DO IT!
I DON'T
WANT
TO CUT
OPEN MY
STOMACH!

L-L-LORD
SHIMADA!

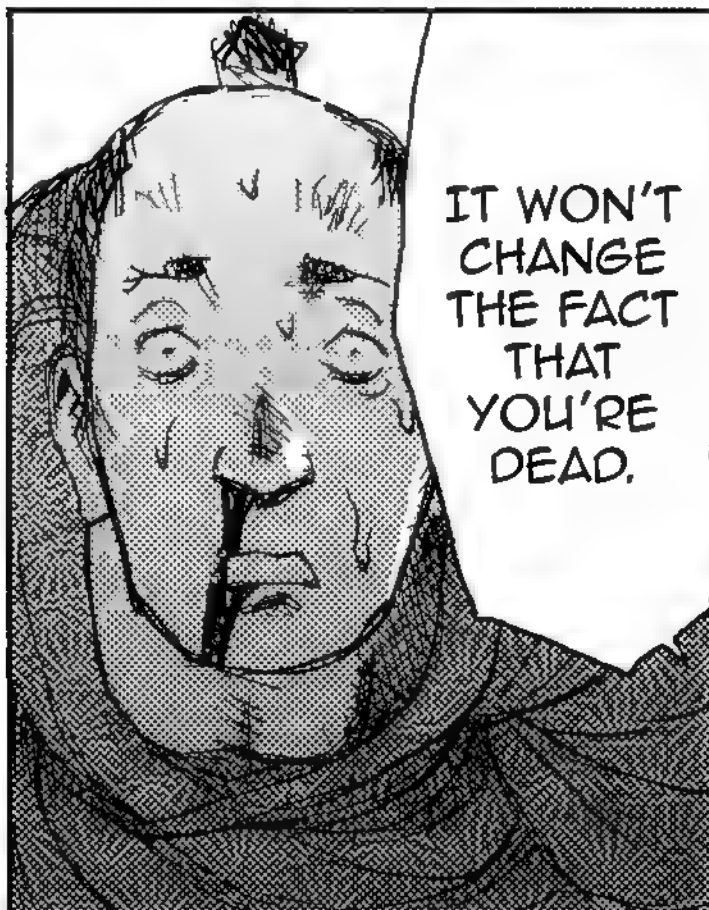


NO
WAY...



I DON'T
WANT TO FEEL
ANY PAIN!
PLEASE...

IF I'M
GOING TO DIE,
I'D RATHER
YOU JUST
BEHEAD ME
IN ONE GO!



IT WON'T
CHANGE
THE FACT
THAT
YOU'RE
DEAD.



HURRY
UP.

JUST
DO IT.



MM-
HMM.

WE NEED
SOME-
ONE TO
BEHEAD
HIM.



**YOU CAN
DO IT!**

**USHI-
GOROU!**



**YOU GET
TO KILL
SOMEONE
AGAIN.**

**AREN'T
YOU
GLAD?**



Ching

**WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?
HURRY UP
AND COME
OVER!**

**Y-
YES!**

**DON'T
YOU
DARE!**

I'LL TRY
TO MAKE IT
PAINLESS
FOR YA, WHEN
YOU PUT THE
SWORD CLOSE
TO YOUR
STOMACH,
THAT'S WHEN
I'LL CUT...

HEY,
UME-
KICHI.

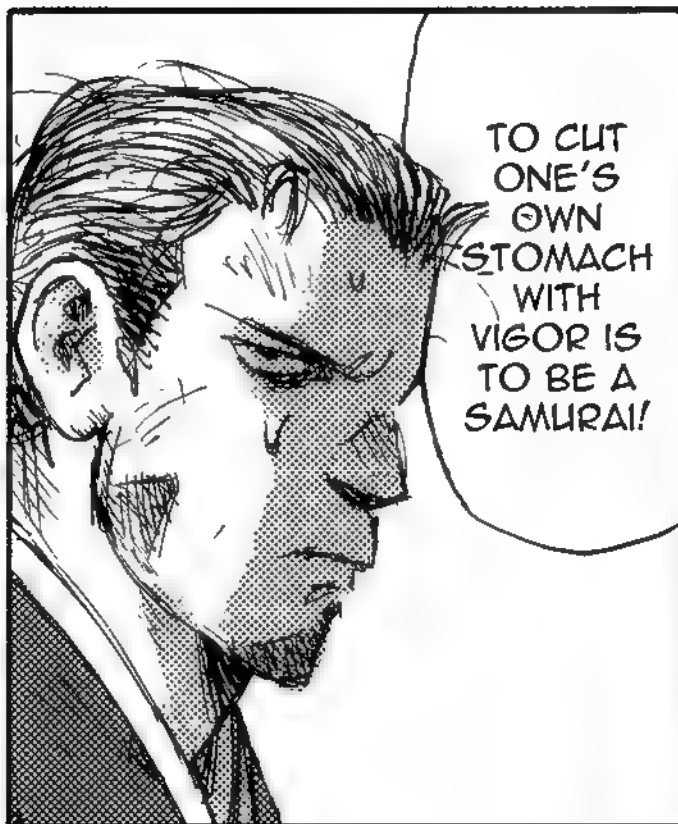
THE HEAD ONLY
FALLS WHEN WE
SEE UMEKICHI,
LIKE A SAMURAI,
GLORIOUSLY CUT
STRAIGHT ACROSS
HIS STOMACH!

IF YOU'RE
A SAMURAI,
THEN DO IT
PROPERLY!

AM I
WRONG,
LORD
SHIMADA!?

I WOULD
NEVER
CALL SUCH
COWARDS
SAMURAI!

ALTHOUGH THERE
ARE EXECUTIONERS
THAT TAKE PITY ON
THOSE THEY HAVE
TO BEHEAD AND
THEY CUT THEIR
NECKS BEFORE
THEY CUT THEIR
STOMACHS...



TO CUT
ONE'S
OWN
STOMACH
WITH
VIGOR IS
TO BE A
SAMURAI!



NO ONE
SHOULD
CORRUPT
THEIR SPIRIT
BY REDUCING
THE ACT TO A
MERE FOR-
MALITY.

THAT'S
CORRECT.



UME-
KICHI...



I CAN'T
POS-
SIBLY
DO IT...

TH-
THERE'S
NO WAY...



NOW
HURRY UP
AND DO IT,
UMEKICHI!

SFX:
Clattering



IF YOU'RE A
SAMURAI, THEN
YOU SHOULD JUST
SLICE UP YOUR
STOMACH QUICKLY!

I KNEW HE
WAS JUST A
PLAIN OLD
PEASANT!

HEH,
WHAT'S UP WITH
THIS FUCKER?
HE ONLY ACTS
TOUGH AROUND
WOMEN OR
SOMETHING?



**HE-
EEE-
EY!**



**HURRY
UP AND
DO IT,
HEY!**

**HEY!
HEY!**

HEY!

SFX:
Bam, bam!



**THIS GUY'S
CRYING LIKE
A BABY!**

**GYA-
HAHA-
HA!**



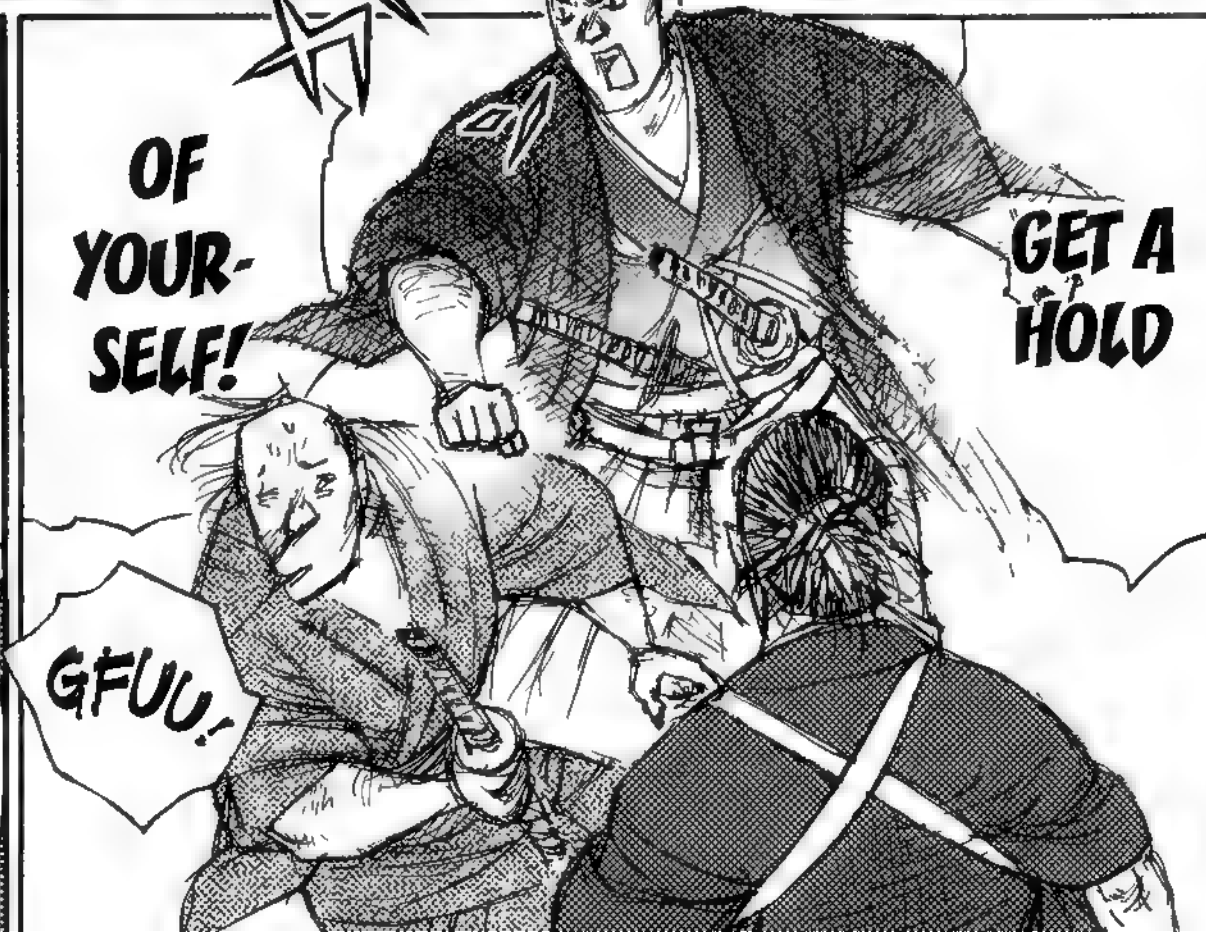
**H
H
H
H
H**

**H
H
H
H
H**

SFX:
Twitching



**YOU'RE...
DOING THIS
ON PURPOSE!**



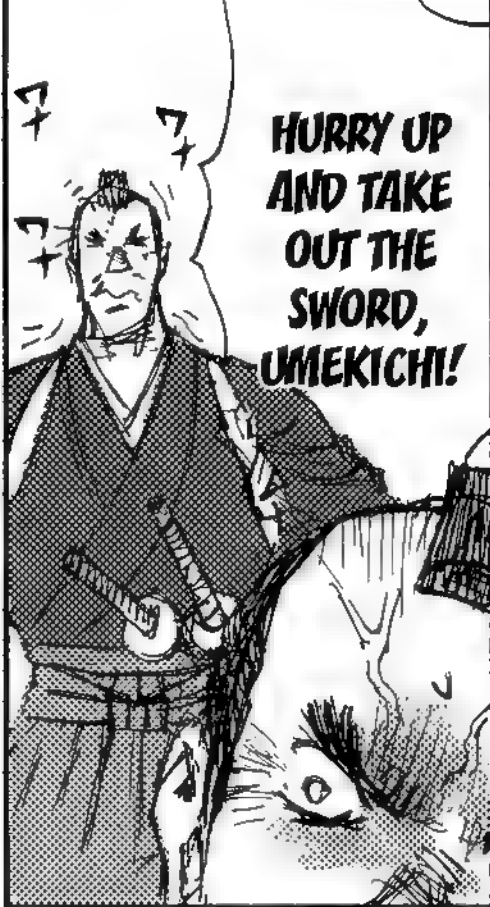
**OF
YOUR-
SELF!**

**GET A
HOLD**

GFUU!

SFX:
Bash

SFX:
Bash,
Crack,
Shaking



**HURRY UP
AND TAKE
OUT THE
SWORD,
UMEKICHI!**



**YOU WANT
TO EMBAR-
RASS LORD
SHIMADA
AND I!**

**TO GET
BACK AT US
FOR THE
GRUELING
DAILY
TRAINING,**



**SHOW
US YOUR
WILLPOWER
AND DO IT!**

**DON'T
GIVE UP,
UME-
KICHI!!!**



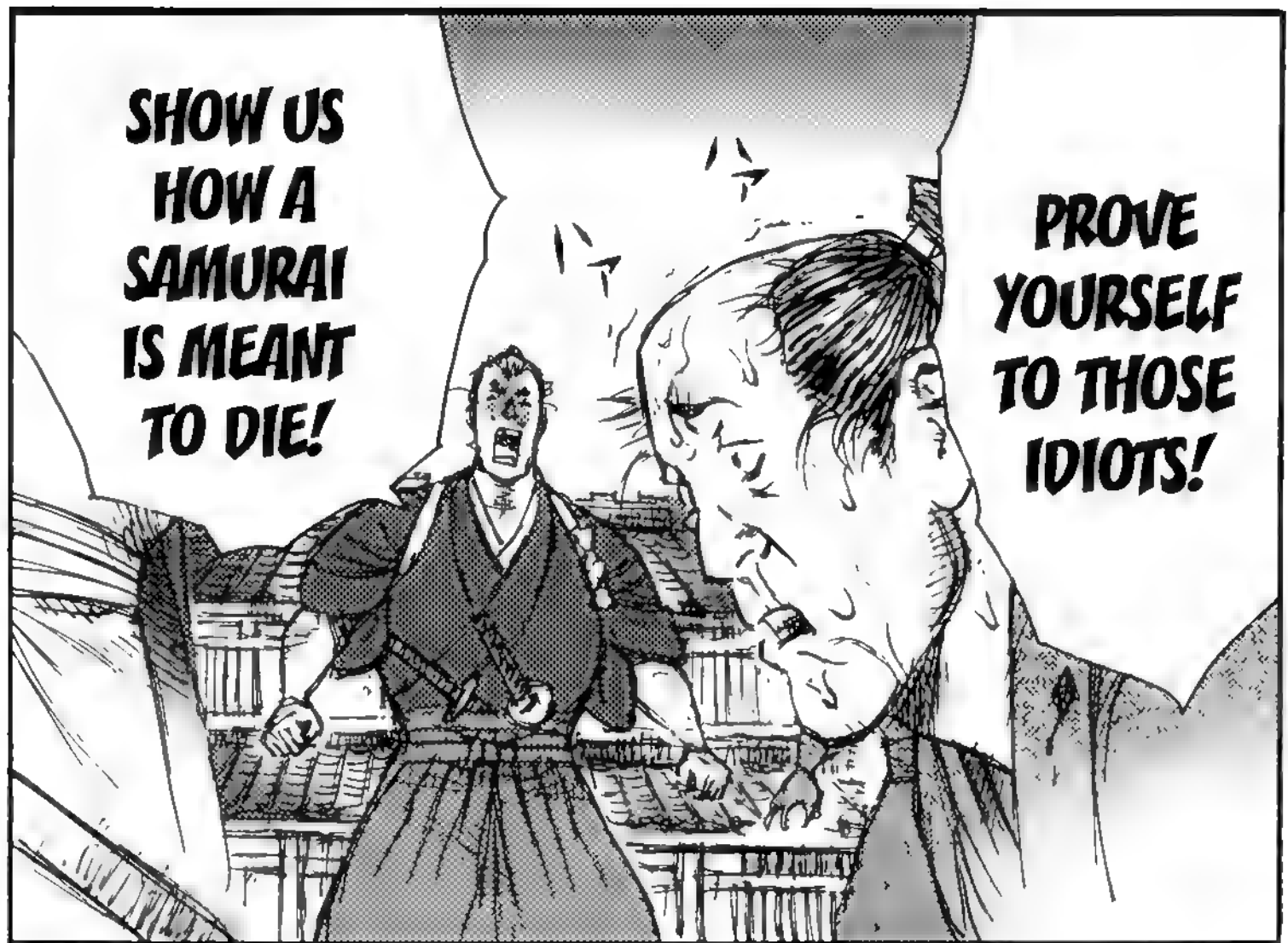
**DON'T FORGET
THAT YOU'RE
A SAMURAI!**

**YOU'RE A
WARRIOR OF
THE ONE
STRIKE
SPECIAL
SQUAD!**



**ICHI-
ZOU!**

I...



**SHOW US
HOW A
SAMURAI
IS MEANT
TO DIE!**

**PROVE
YOURSELF
TO THOSE
IDIOTS!**



**UMEKICHI IS
A WARRIOR
OF THE ONE
STRIKE
SQUAD!**

**WHY
SHOULD
I!?**

**STOP IT
ICHIZOU!**



**MY CRIES
WILL
DEFINITELY
REACH
UMEKICHI!**

**AS LONG AS
WE OF THE
ONE STRIKE
SQUAD
HAVE THE
SOUL OF
SAMURAI,**

SFX:
Haa Haa

**IT'S THE
SAMURAI
SPIRIT!!**

**CUT OPEN
YOUR
STOMACH,
UMEKICHI!**

**DO IT
NOW!**

**WE'RE TELLIN'
YOU TO COMMIT
SEPPUKU, YOU
PHILAN-
DERER!**

**DON'T SIT
THERE
ACTIN'
DUMB!**

**TAKE
OUT THE
SWORD!**

**WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING!?**

HAA

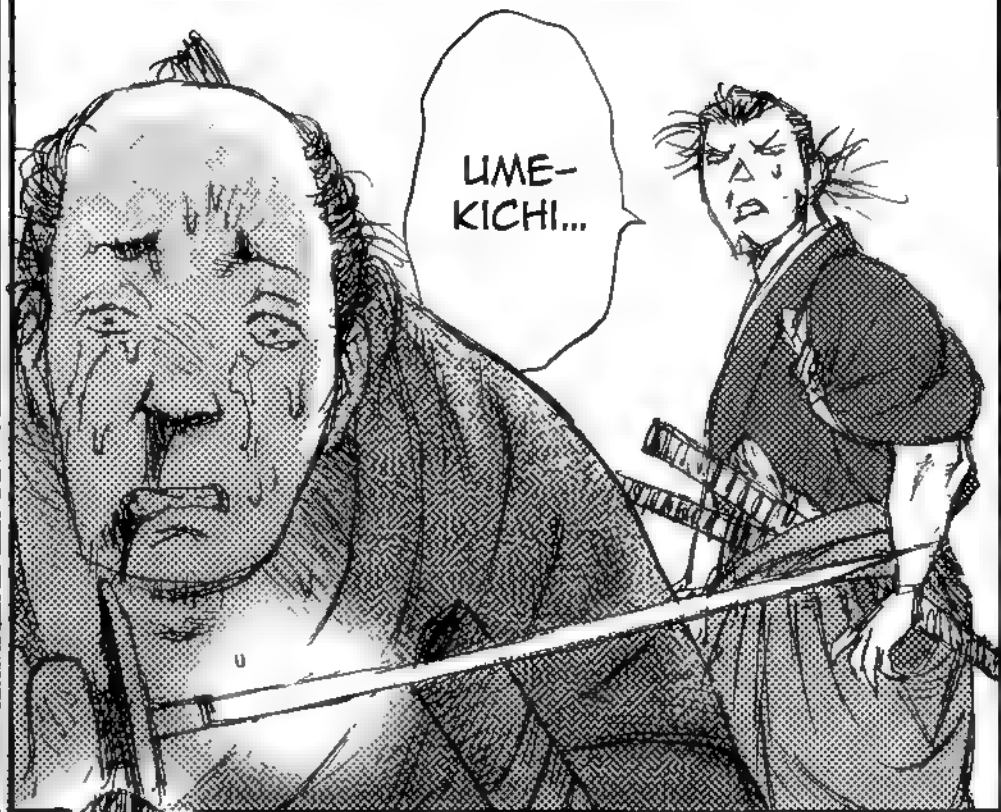
HAA

.....
**WHAT
EXACTLY
DO YOU
WANT TO
DO?**

SFX:
Clack



WHO
CARES
ABOUT
SAMU-
RAI...



LIME-
KICHI...



ARE
THE ONES
WHO ARE
MESSED
UP IN THE
HEAD...

THE ONLY
PEOPLE
WHO'D ENJOY
CUTTING
THEIR OWN
STOMACH...

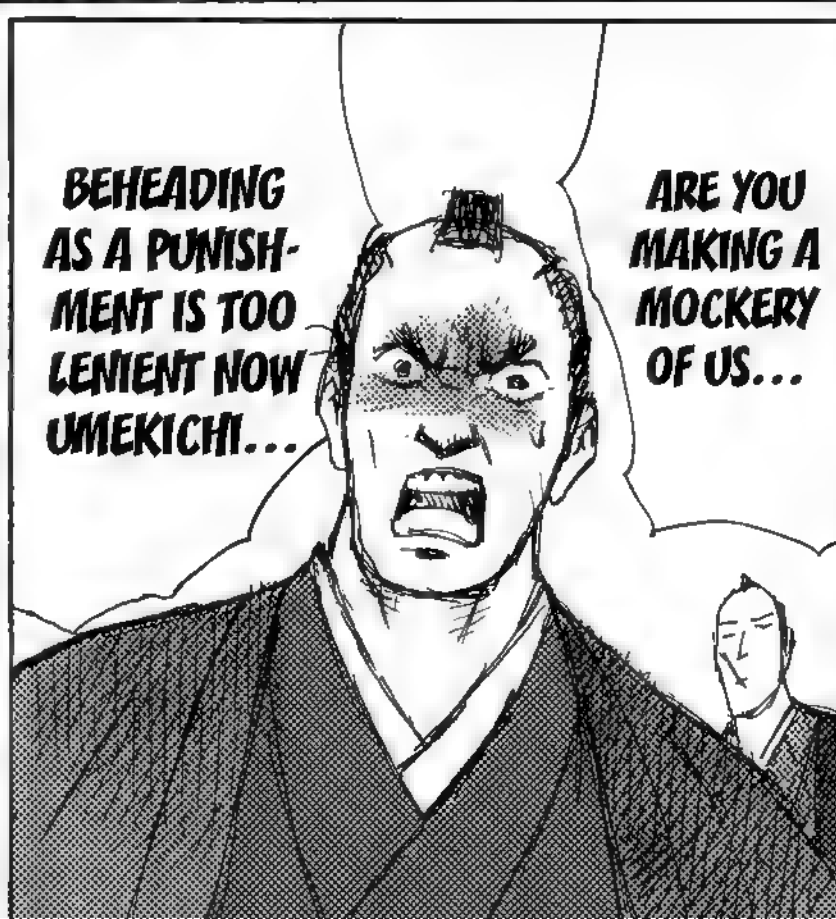


ARE
THE ONES
WHO ARE
FUCKING
MAD!

THE ONES
WHO CUT
THEIR
STOMACHS,



BEHEADING
AS A PUNISH-
MENT IS TOO
LENIENT NOW
UMEKICHI...

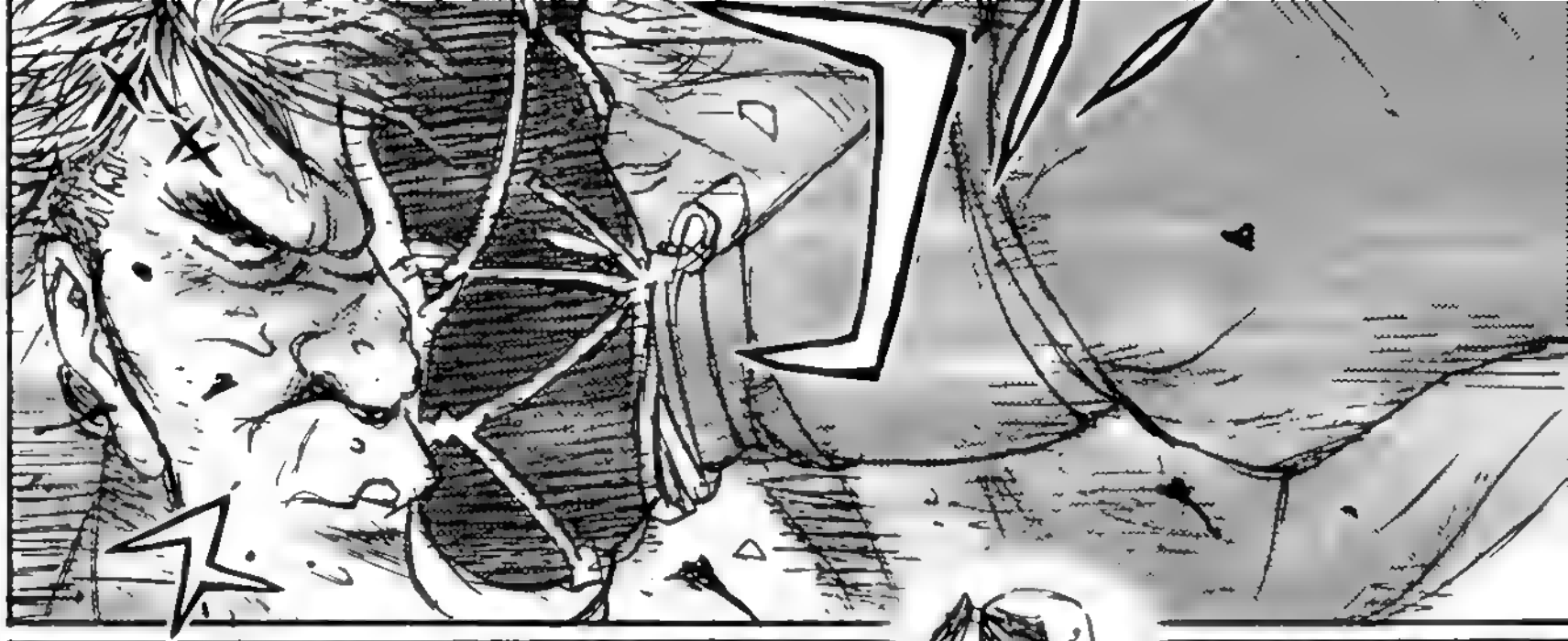


ARE YOU
MAKING A
MOCKERY
OF US...





SFX:
Thwack!
Crack



SFX:
Spin,
Crash



SFX:
Click

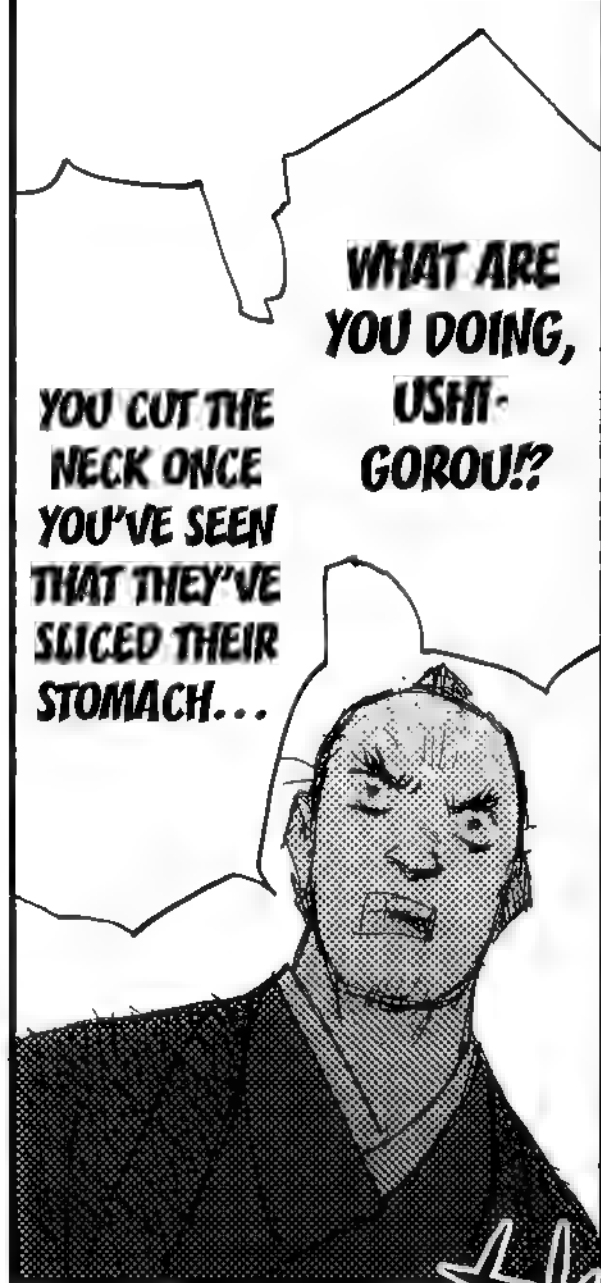




SFX:
SMASH!



SFX:
Splatter



SFX:
Thwack,
slash



**I DON'T
HAVE
TIME FOR
COWARDS!**

**DON'T MESS
AROUND,
UMEKICHI!**

SFX:
Thwam!

**THE ONE
WHO'S
MAD IS
YOU!**

**YOU'RE
THROWING
DIRT ON THE
ONE STRIKE
SQUAD!**


**YOU'RE
MOCKING
SAMURAI,**

SFX:
Thwack,
slash,
Puking

**UME-
KICHI...**

**TO TRY TO RUN
AWAY FROM
HERE IS JUST
RIDICULOUS!**

**LETTING A
WOMAN TAKE
AWAY YOUR
SENSE OF
REALITY...**



**YOU ARE
NOT ONE
OF US!**

**SOMEONE
LIKE YOU
IS NOT A
WARRIOR OF
THE ONE
STRIKE
SQUAD!**

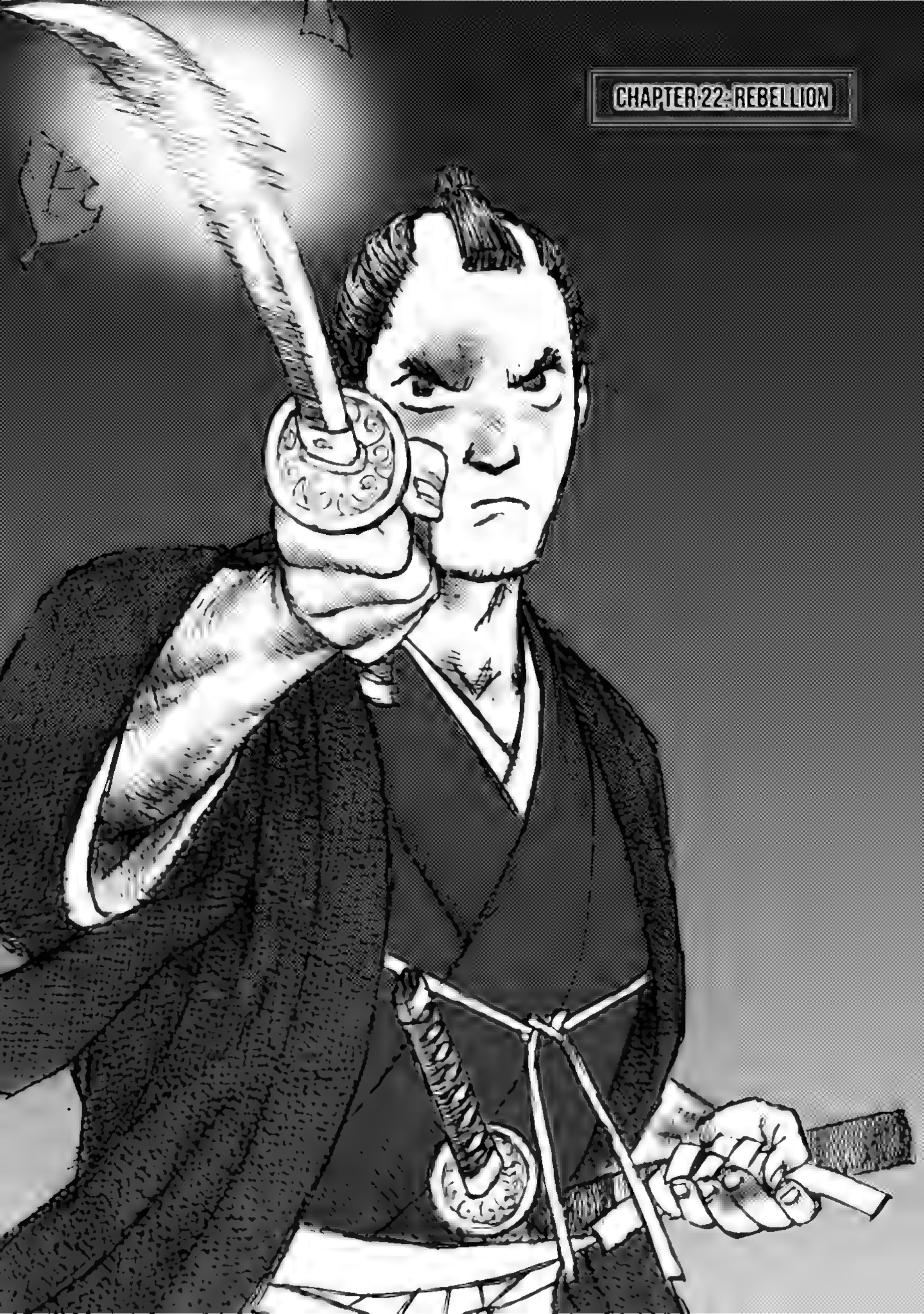
SFX:
Fluttering

**TAKE
THIS!**

撃

**TAKE
THIS!**

CHAPTER 22: REBELLION





**YOU
FUCKING
BAS-
TARD!!**



**SUCH A
COWARD!**

**THIS IS
WHAT YOU
GET FOR
BEING**

SFX:
Whack,
smash



**TAKE
THIS!**

UME-
KICHI...

SFX:
Bash,
Thwack



**YOU
TRAITOR!**

SFX:
Thud

SFX:
Flap,
wack



CEASE
THIS.

THAT'S
ENOUGH,
USHI-
GOROU.



SFX:
Thwack

**USHI-
GOROU!**

**STOP
NOW!**



**WHA-
AAT!?**

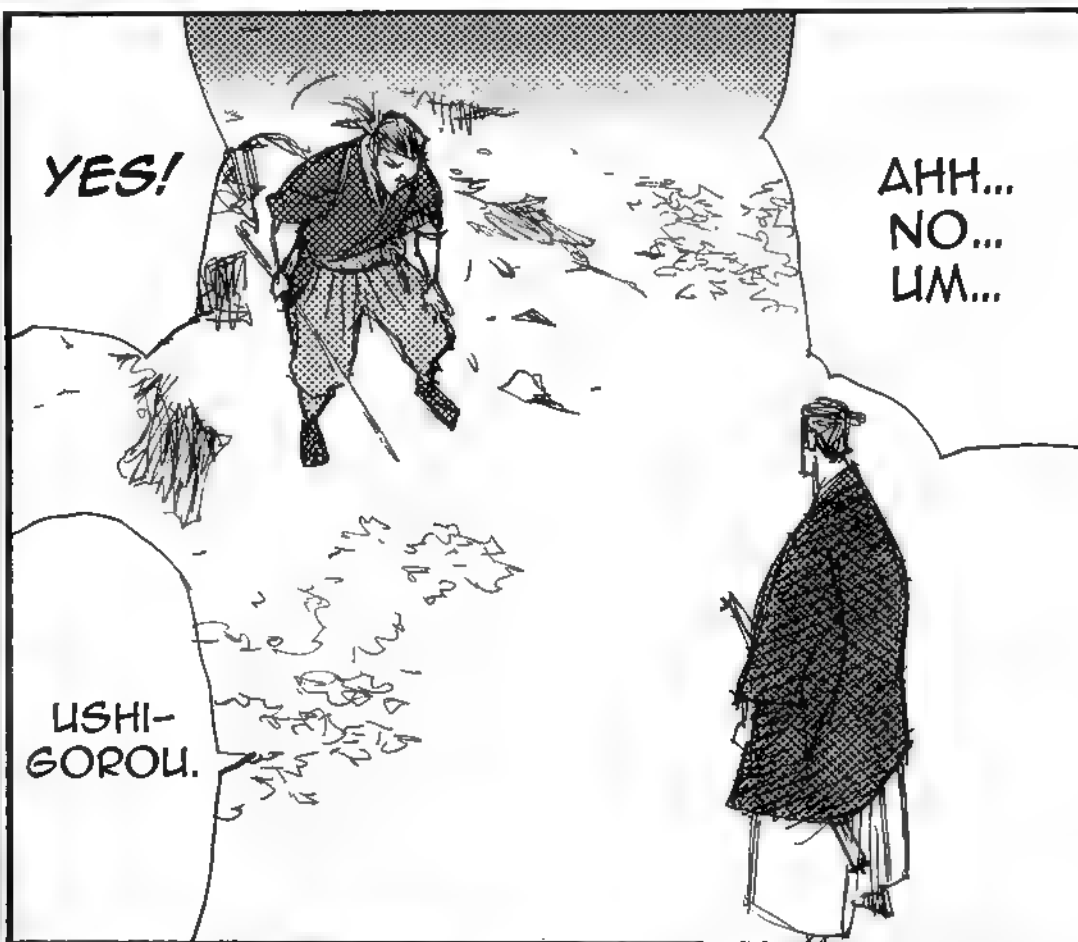




HA.



I'M SURE
I SAID TO
CUT DOWN
UMEKICHI
AFTER HE
HAD CUT HIS
STOMACH.



YES!

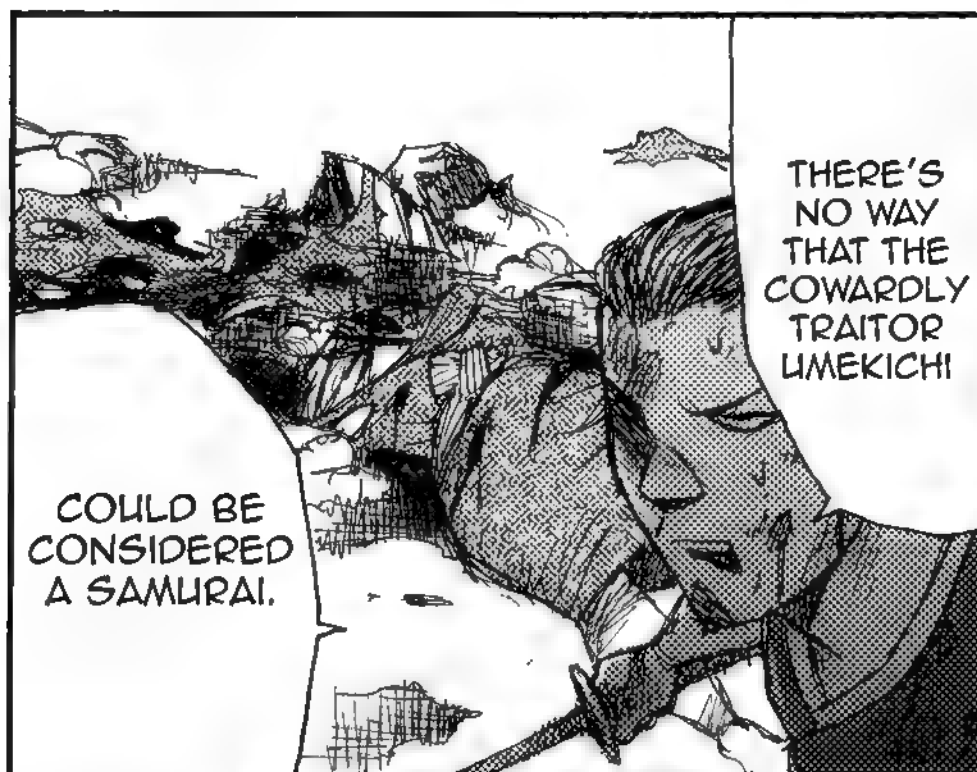
AHH...
NO...
UM...

USHI-
GOROU.



ONLY A TRUE
SAMURAI
SHOULD BE
ALLOWED...

B-BUT TO
PERMIT HIM
TO COMMIT
SEPPUKU...



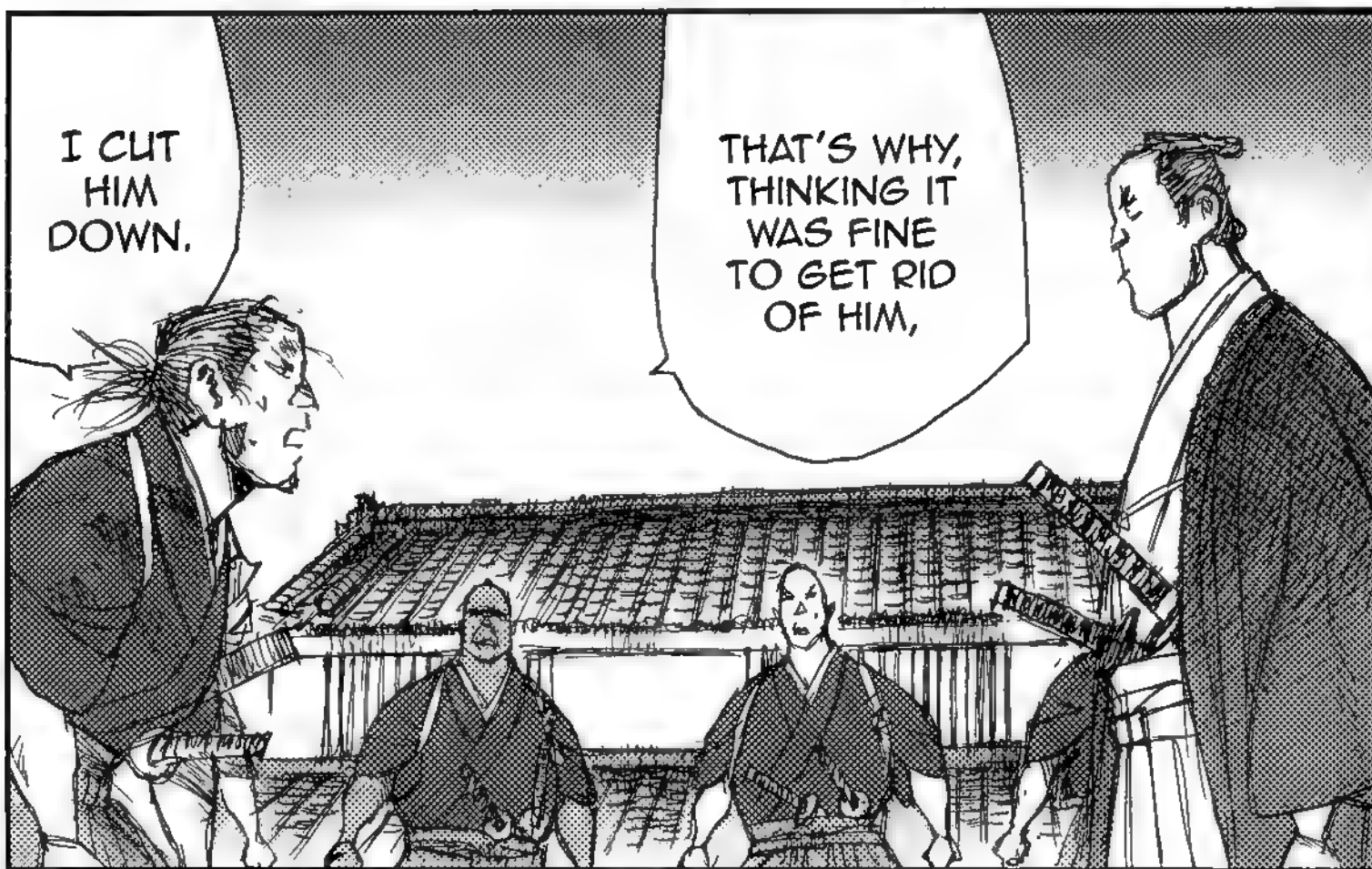
COULD BE
CONSIDERED
A SAMURAI.

THERE'S
NO WAY
THAT THE
COWARDLY
TRAITOR
UMEKICHI!



WHAT
WAS
THAT?

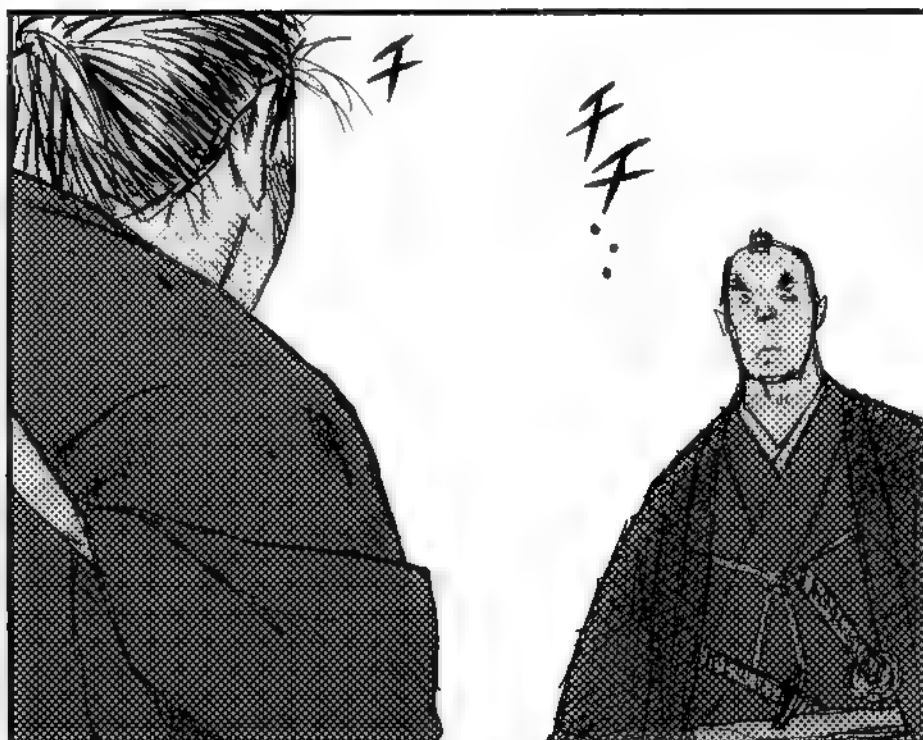
HUH?



I CUT
HIM
DOWN.

THAT'S WHY,
THINKING IT
WAS FINE
TO GET RID
OF HIM,





SFX:
Tweet
tweet



SFX:
Veins
popping



SFX:
Step

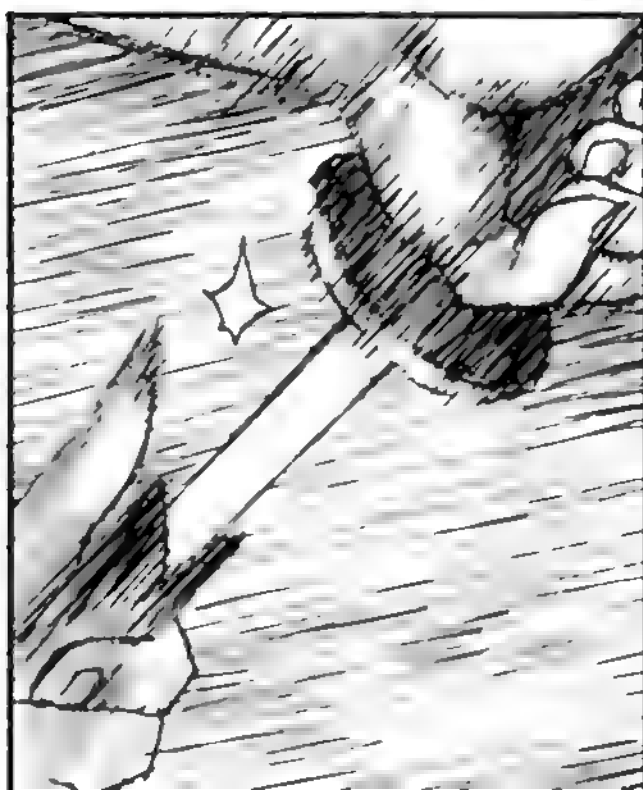
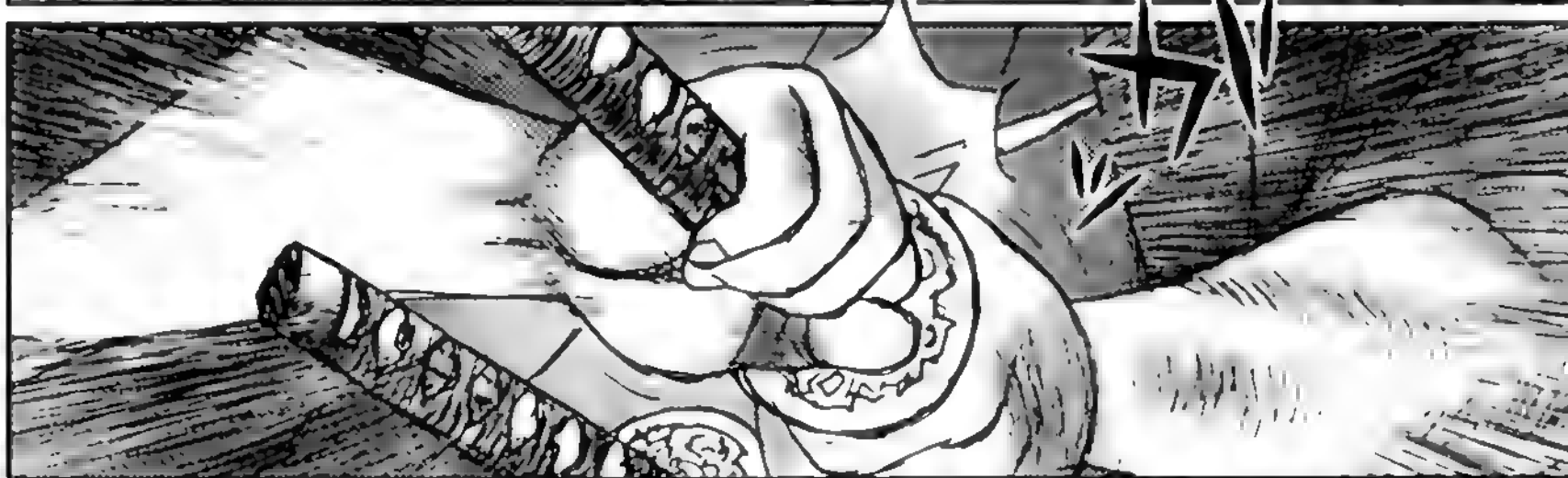
**I AM
ALREADY
TIRED OF
HEARING
YOUR CHOP
LOGIC!**

**YOU THINK
THAT SUCH
SOPHISTRY
WILL BE
ACCEPTABLE
HERE, USHI-
GOROU!?**

SFX:
Stepping



SFX:
Grab





BRO!

**USHI-
GOROU!**

HII...

**TO
GO**

AGAINST

**OR-
DERS**

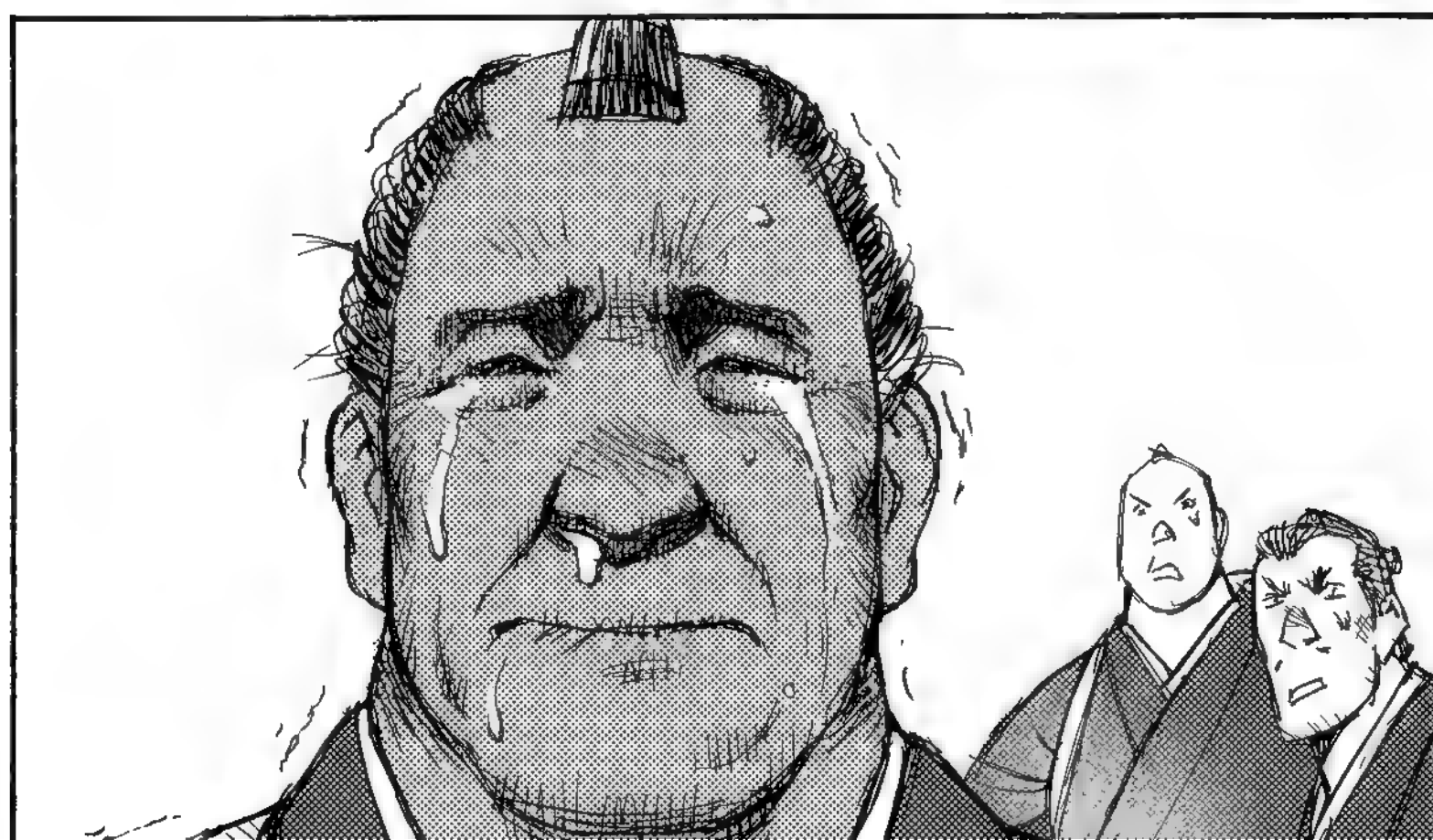
**MEANS
DEATH!!**

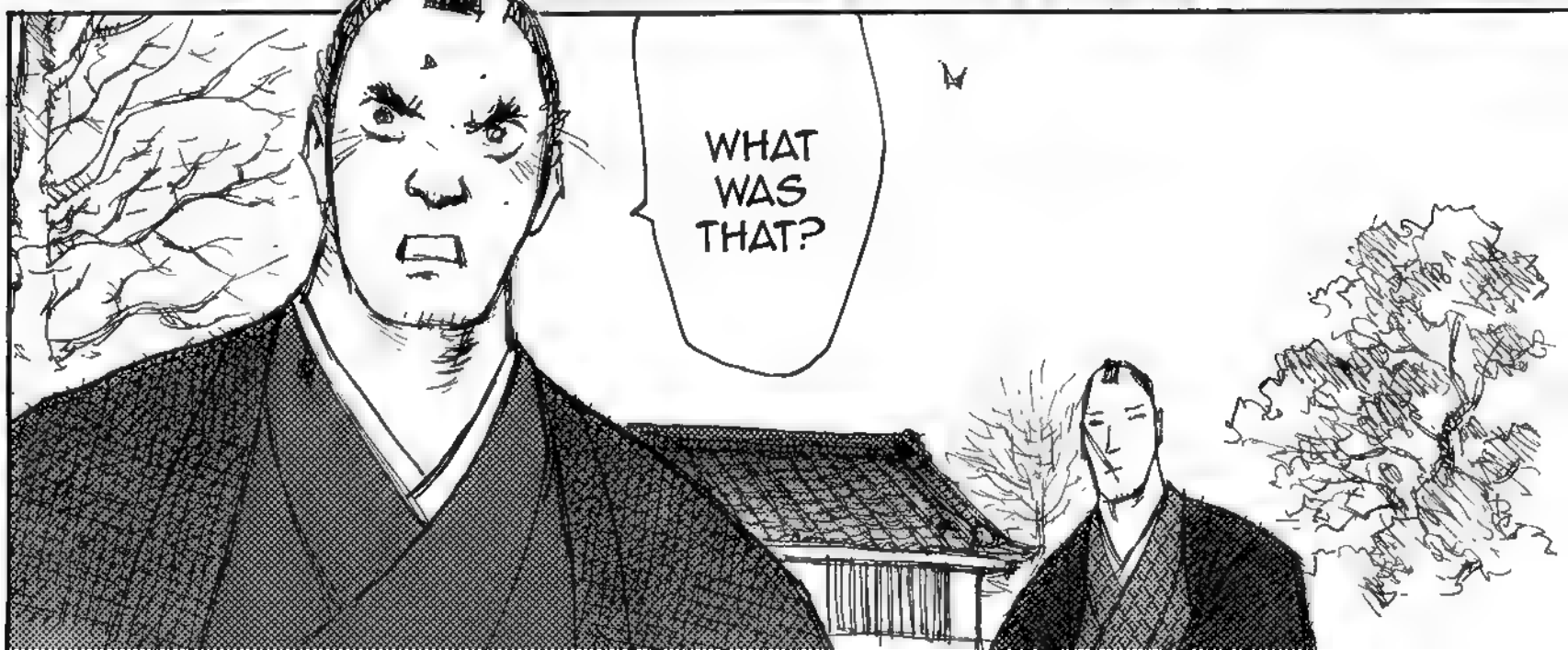




WASA-
BUROU.

WA...



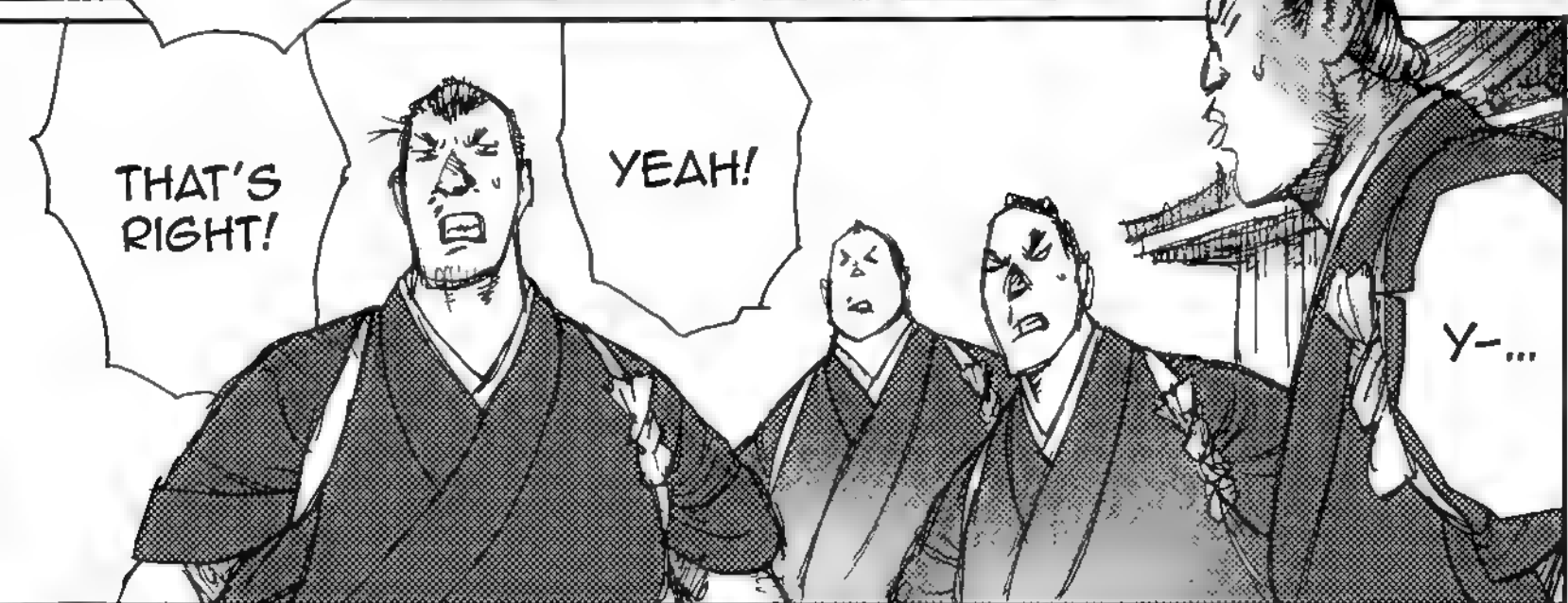






**AREN'T WE
GOING TO CUT
DOWN THE
SATSUMA!?**

**WEREN'T WE
GOING TO KILL
THE SATSUMA
WREAKING
HAVOC IN
TOWN!?**



**THAT'S
RIGHT!**

YEAH!

Y-...



**YEAH, LET
US CUT
DOWN THE
SATSUMA!**



**WE'RE
GOING TO
DEFEAT
THE SAT-
SUMA!**

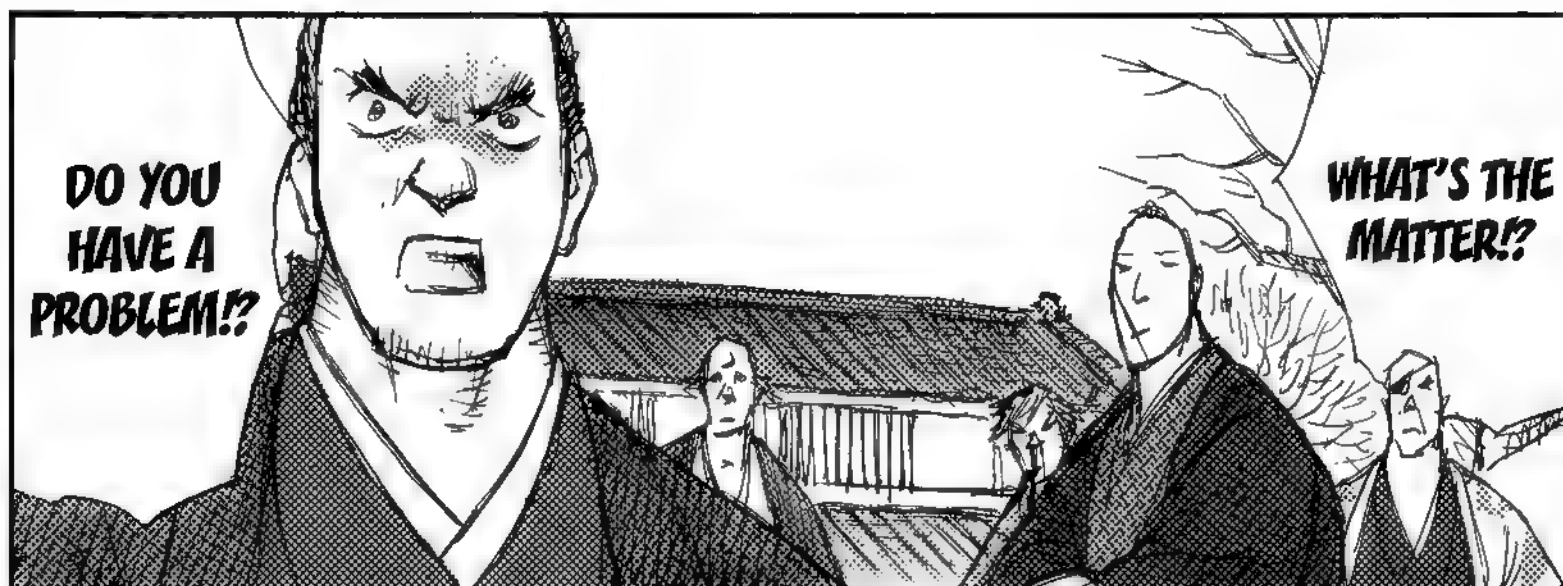
**IT'S THE
SATSUMA!**



**YOU DAMN
PEASANTS!**

**DON'T GET
CARRIED
AWAY!**





DO YOU
HAVE A
PROBLEM!?

WHAT'S THE
MATTER!?



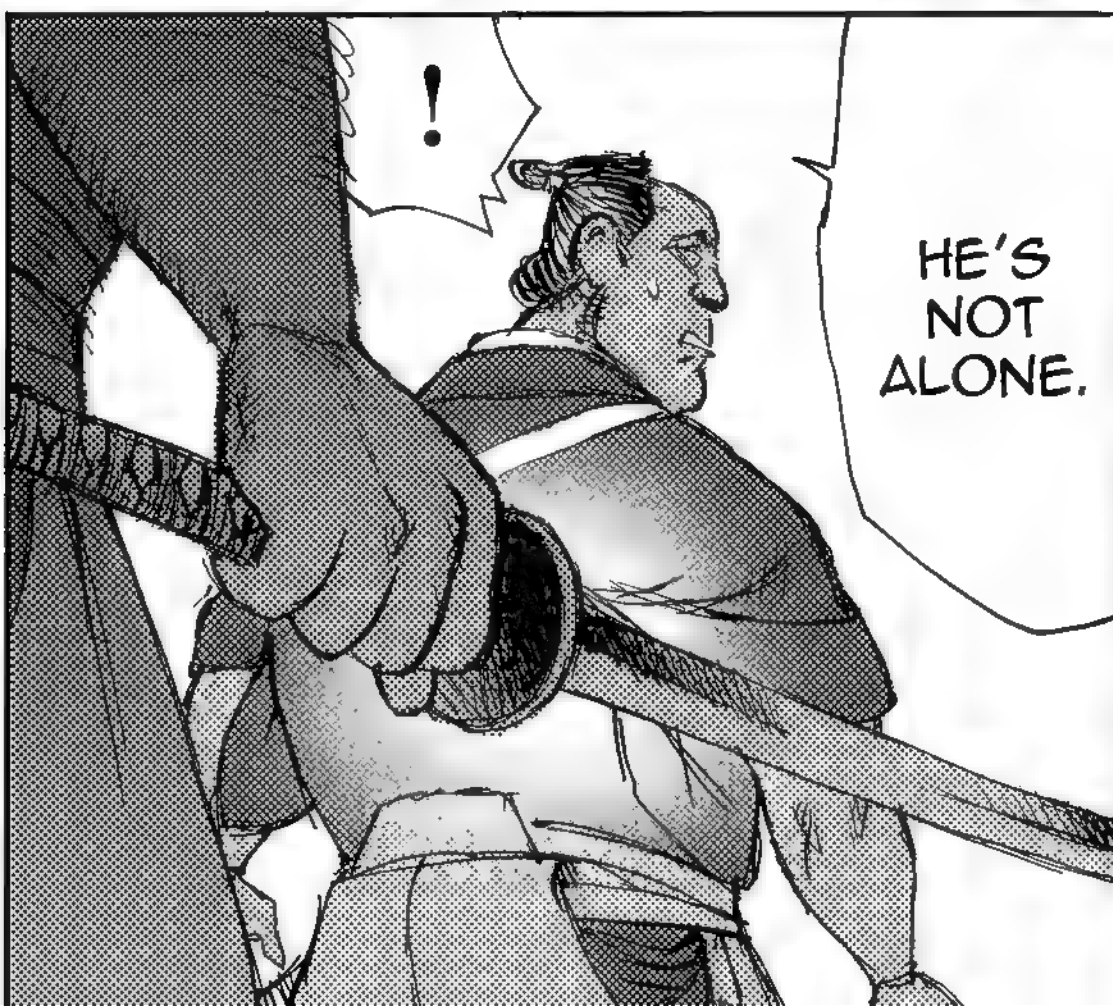
ON
CROSSING
SWORDS
WITH US
ALL BY
YOUR-
SELF?

ARE
YOU
PLAN-
NING

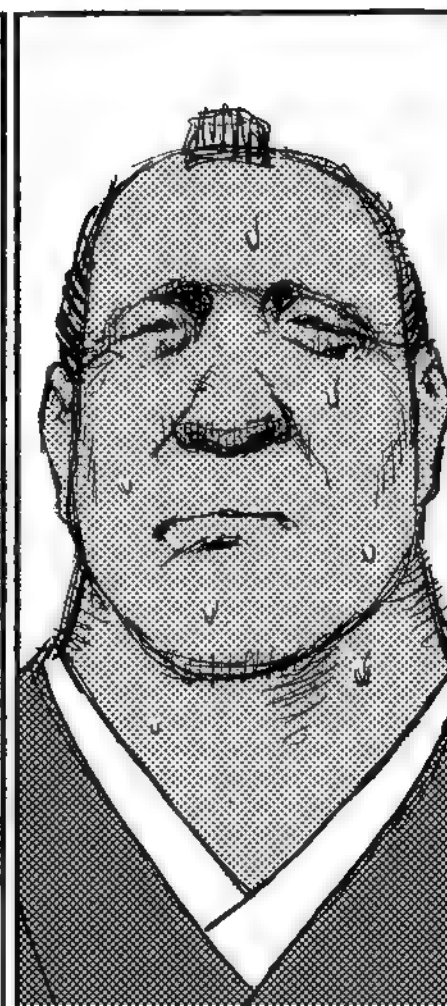


I'D LIKE TO
ASK ONE
QUESTION
ABOUT WHAT
YOU JUST
SAID.

ONE
PROBLEM,
WASA-
BUROI.



HE'S
NOT
ALONE.





I'LL
STAND
WITH
HIM.



SHUT UP,
STAY OUT OF
THIS BRO!

S-STOP IT,
YOU IDIOT!



YONE-
KICHI!

**IT'S A GIVEN
THAT I'LL LAY
DOWN MY
LIFE FOR
MY FRIENDS!**

**I'M A
SAMURAI,
SO...**

**SO
WHAT!?**

**YONEKICHI,
YOU'RE GOING
TO BE KILLED!**

**WE CAN'T
JUST IGNORE
THE FACT THAT
THEY CALLED
US PEASANTS.**

**HE... HEHE,
THAT'S TRUE...**

**NUUU-
UUUU!**

**ME
TOO!**

**I'LL
JOIN
IN!**

SFX:
Grab

**I'LL JOIN
AS WELL!!**

SFX
Smoothly

**OR WE CUT
ALL OF YOU
DOWN!**

**EITHER
WE CUT
DOWN THE
SATSUMA,**





THERE'S ONLY GOING TO BE MORE DEAD MEN.

NO GOOD... THERE'S NO WAY I CAN MAKE THEM SETTLE DOWN NOW.



I'LL BE YOUR OPPONENT.

I UNDERSTAND.



SFX: Spin, stop

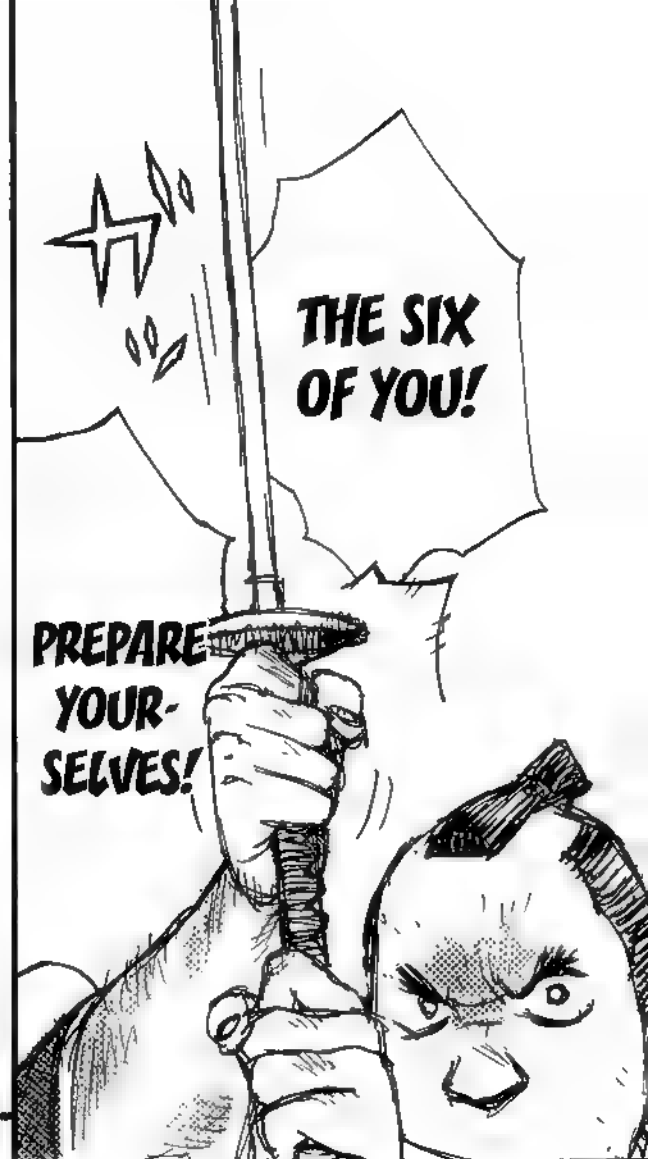


I HAVEN'T SHOWN ANY OF YOU MY HANDLING OF THE SWORD YET.

Clack

THIS IS GOOD TIMING.

SFX:
hold,
clack

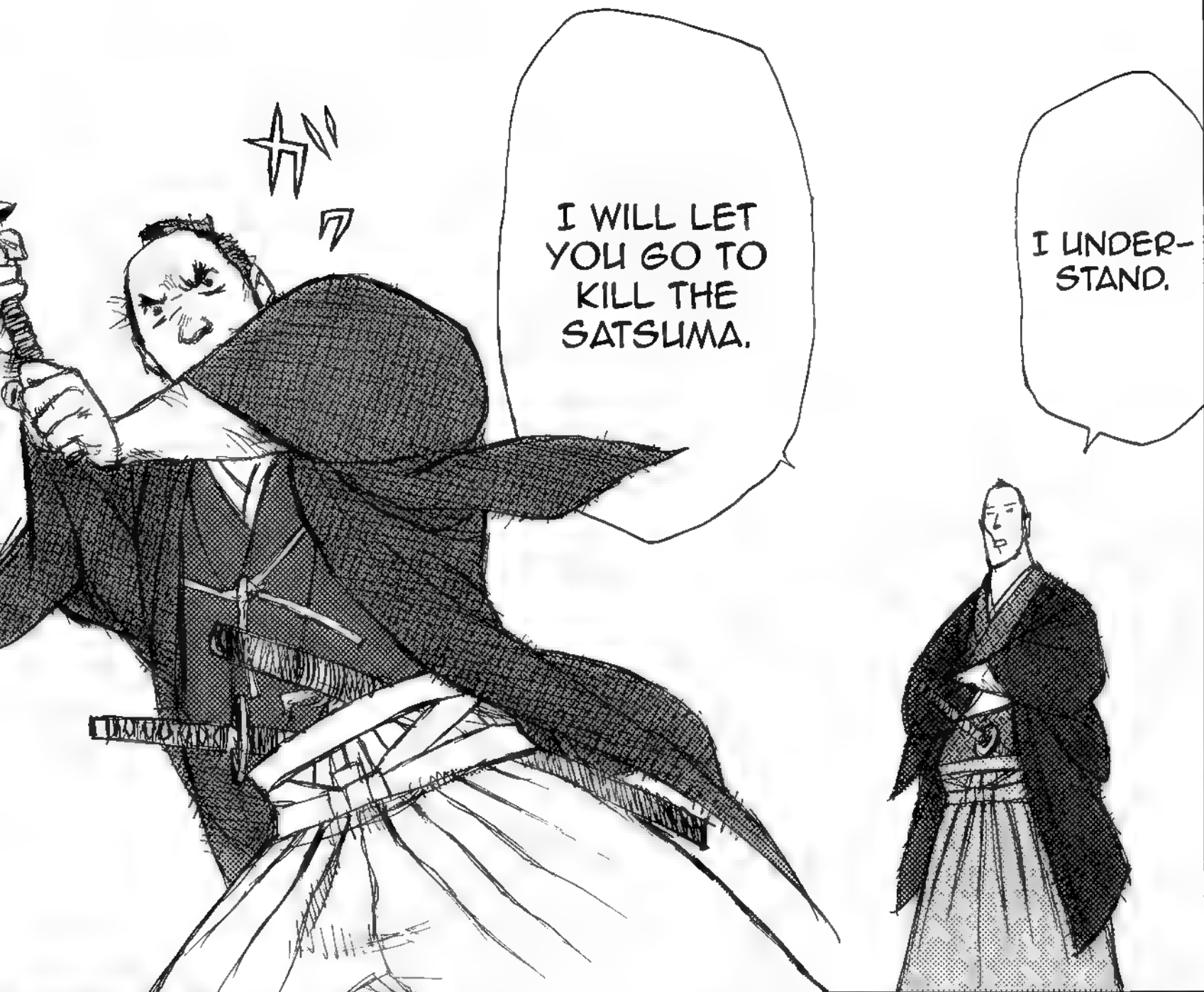


TL/N:
Roughly
translated
to "Eight
Heat/
Passion
Hell Blade"



**HACHI-
NETSU-
JIGOKU-
KEN!!**

**LET YOUR
BODIES
HAVE A
TASTE OF
MY TECH-
NIQUES!**



SFX:
stagger





BESIDES,
ALL THAT
WILL
HAPPEN
IS THEY
GET CUT
DOWN.

*BUT,
SIR...*



THERE'S
NO POINT
IN BEING
RELUCTANT
ABOUT
THIS.

THIS IS
DOING
NOTHING
FOR THE
WELL-BEING
OF THE
SQUAD.



AM I
WRONG?

IT SAVES
US THE
HASSLE OF
DISPOSING
OF THEM
OURSELVES.

SFX:
Hmmm



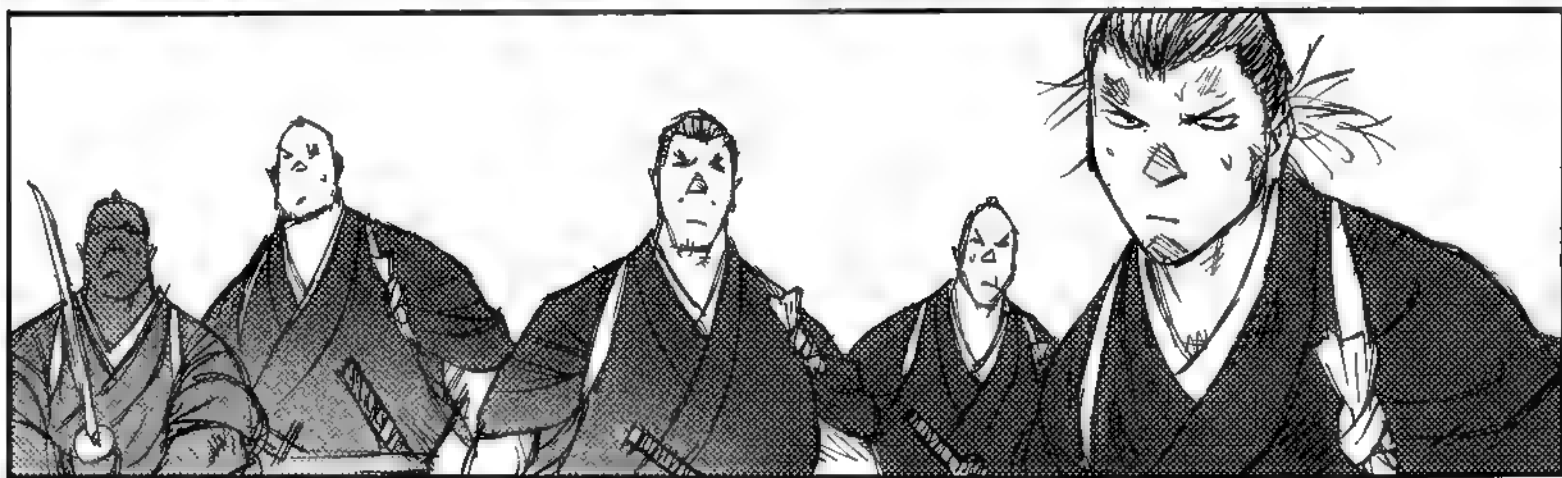
LISTEN
CARE-
FULLY.





IT WILL BE
AN ALL-OUT
ATTACK
AGAINST THE
SATSUMA!

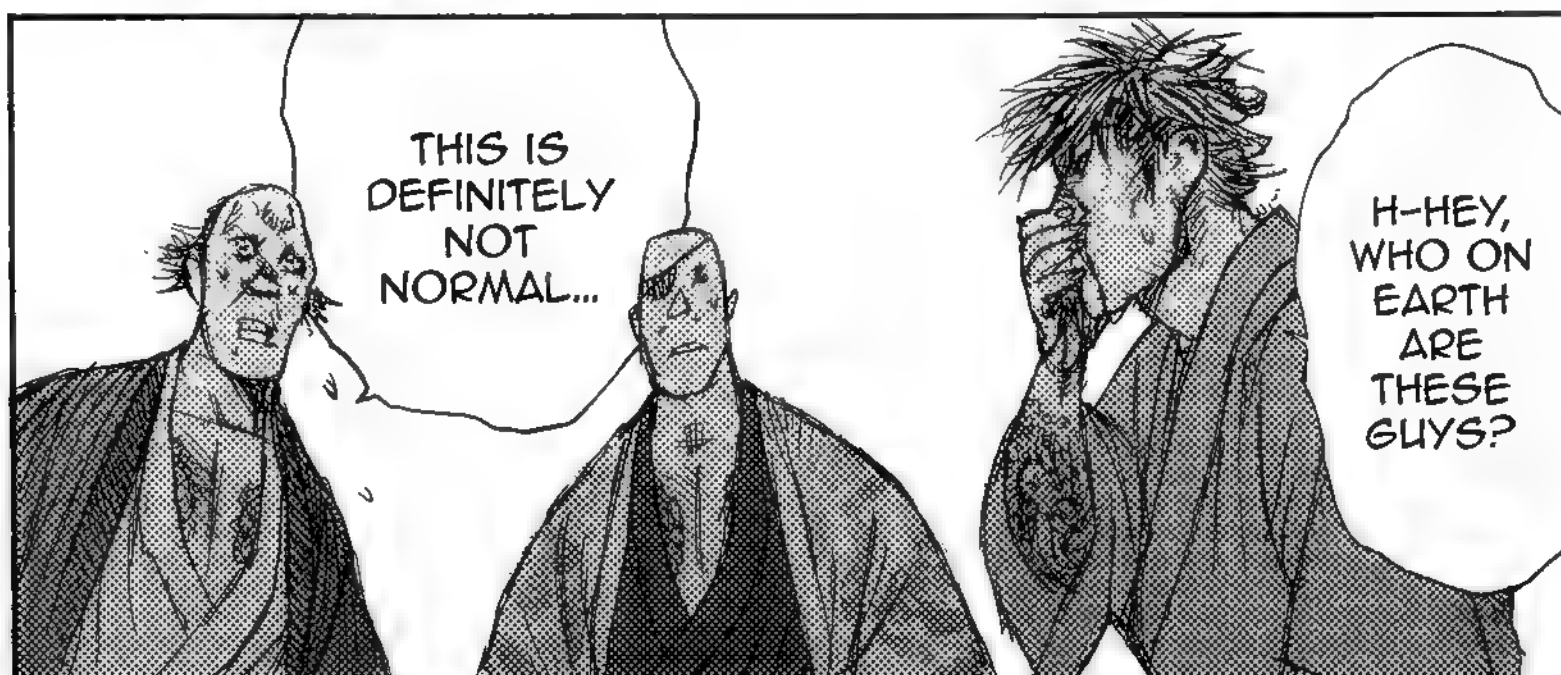
WE WILL
SET OUT
TOMORROW
NIGHT!

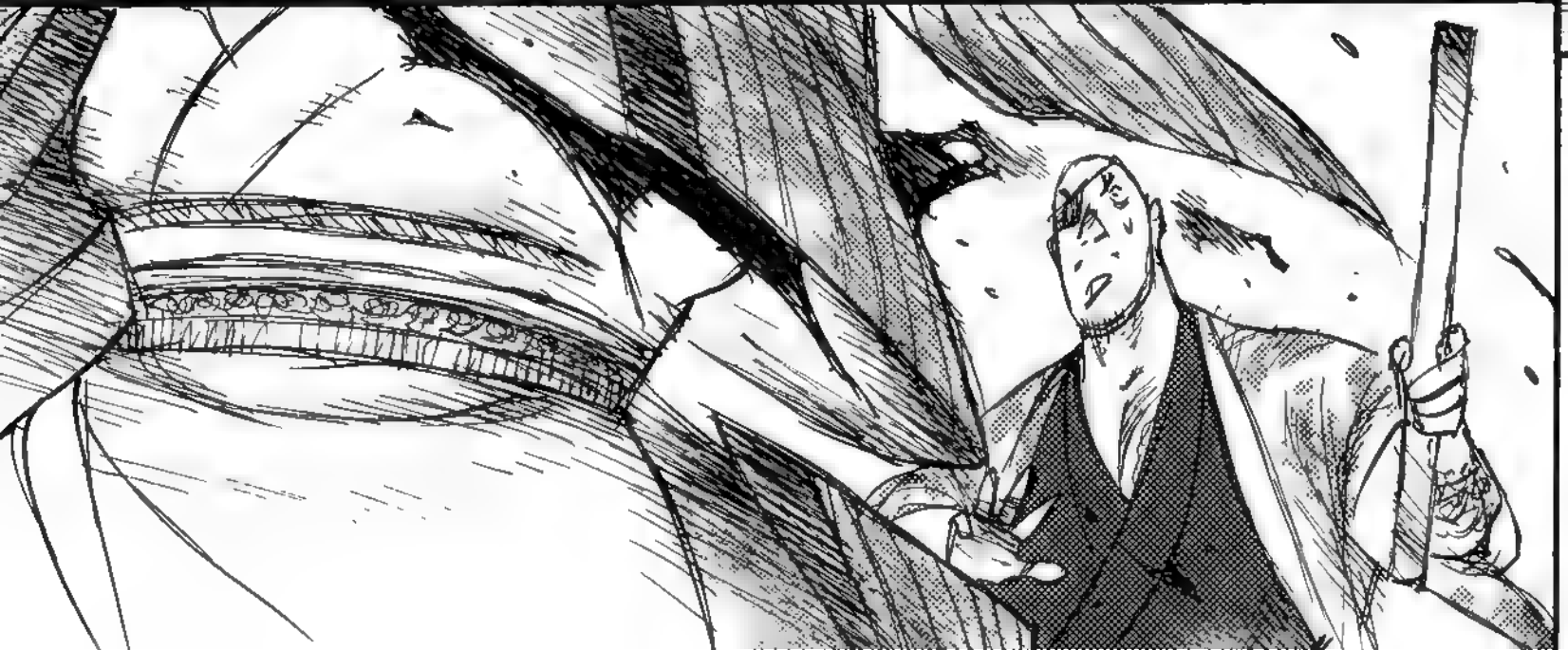


PREPARE
YOUR-
SELVES.

THERE
WILL BE
NO
TRAINING
UNTIL
THEN.

SFX:
step,
step,
step





SFX:
Thwoomp,
shwoom

SFX:
Splurt

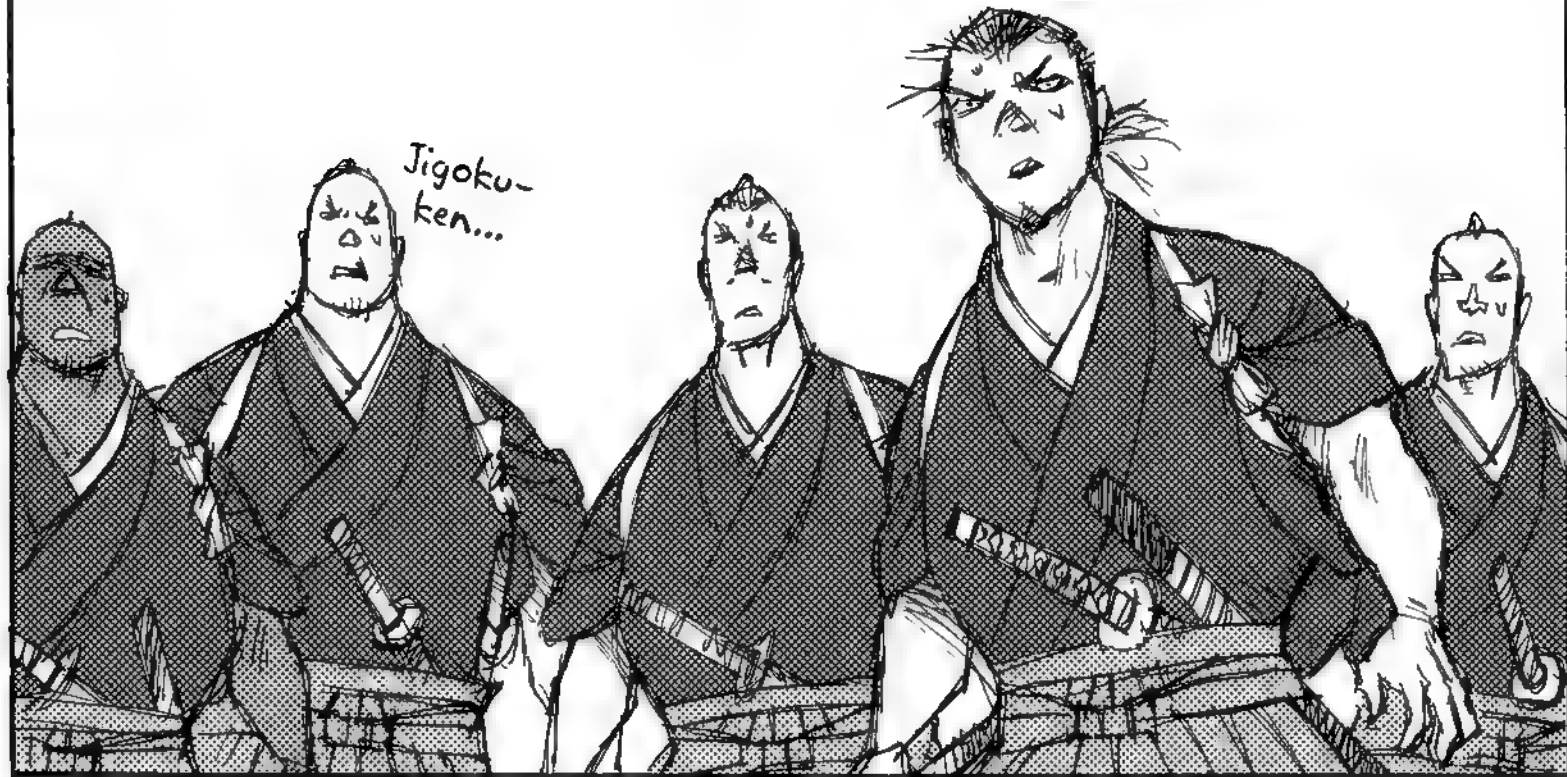


SFX:
thump



SFX:
spin





Jigoku-ken...



YOKICHI,
CLEAN
THIS UP
WILL
YOU?

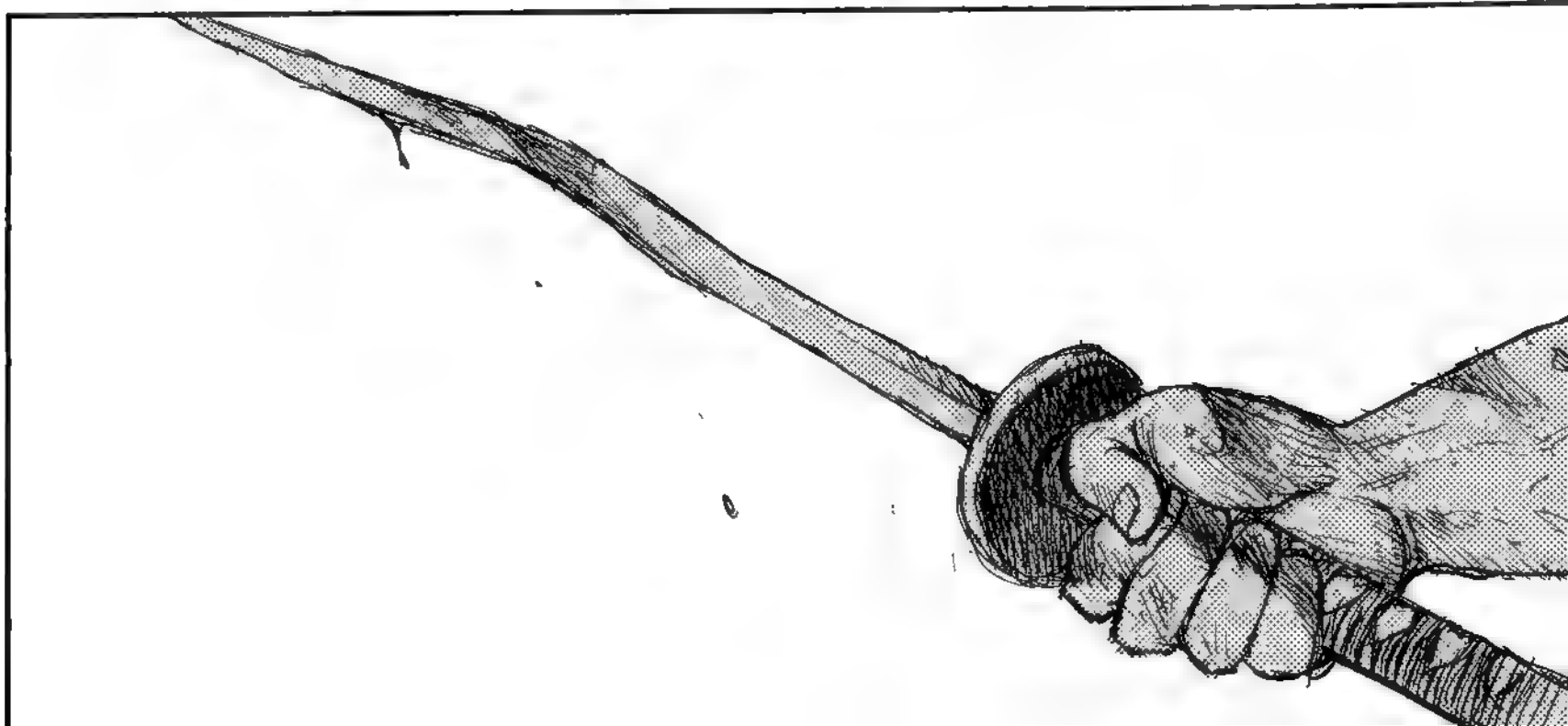
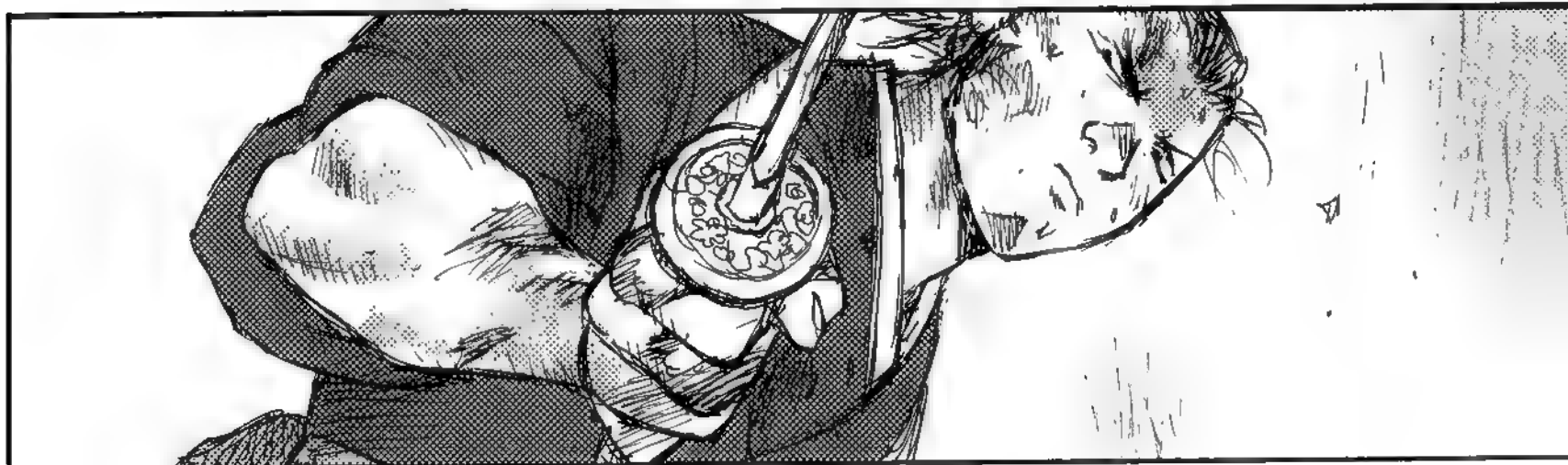
YES
SIR.

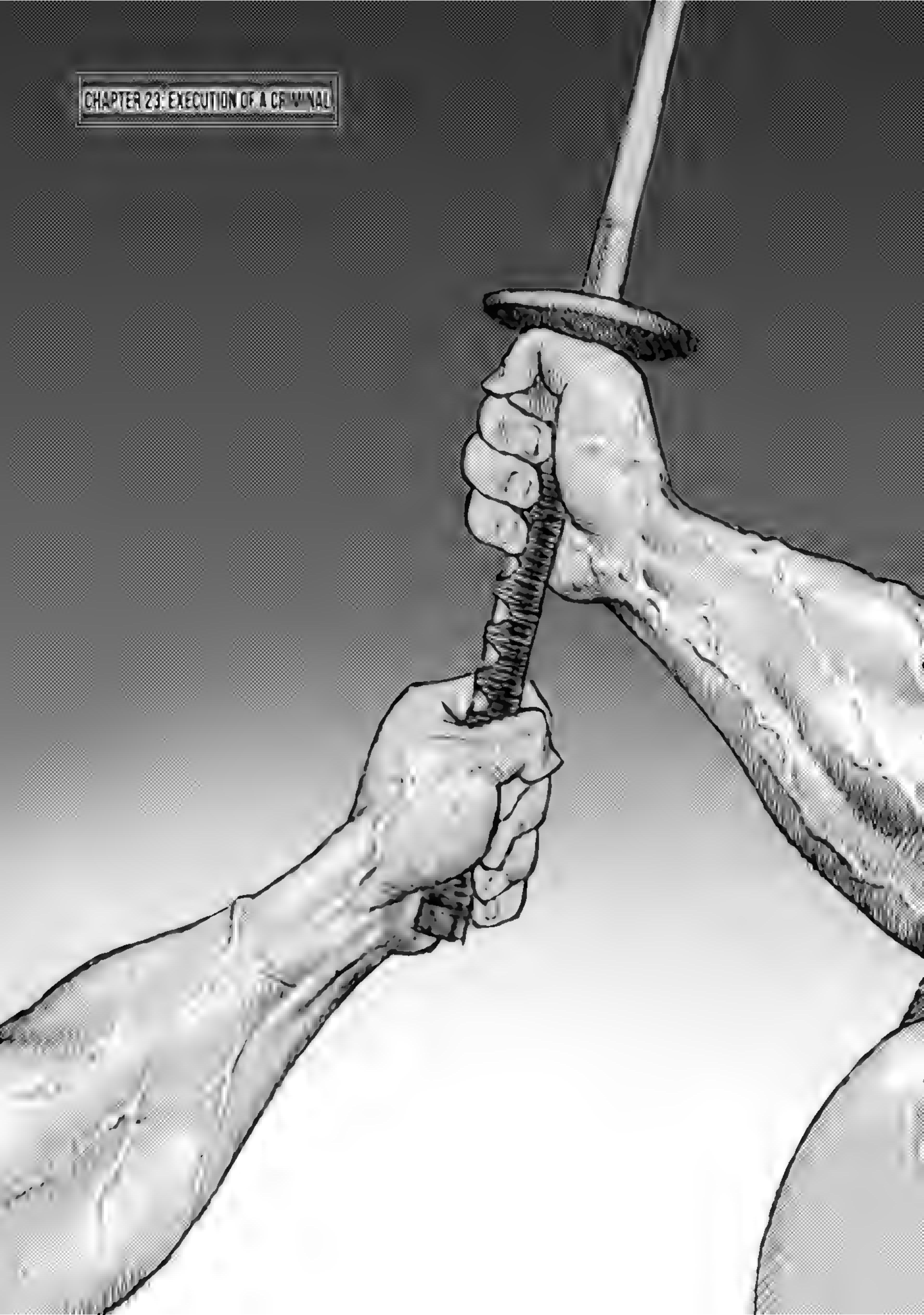


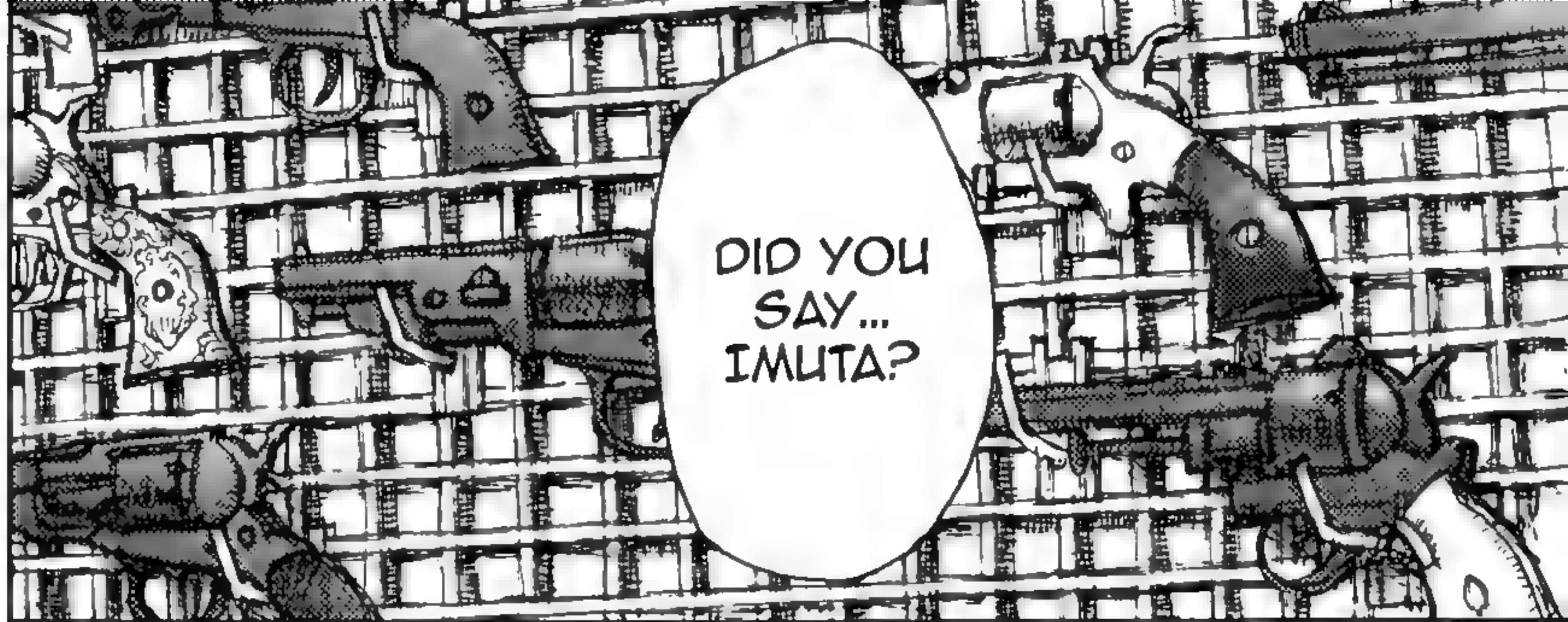
I'M SURE
I'VE ALREADY
TOLD YOU TO
IMMEDIATELY
THROW AWAY
SWORDS YOU
CAN'T USE.

USHI-
GOROU.

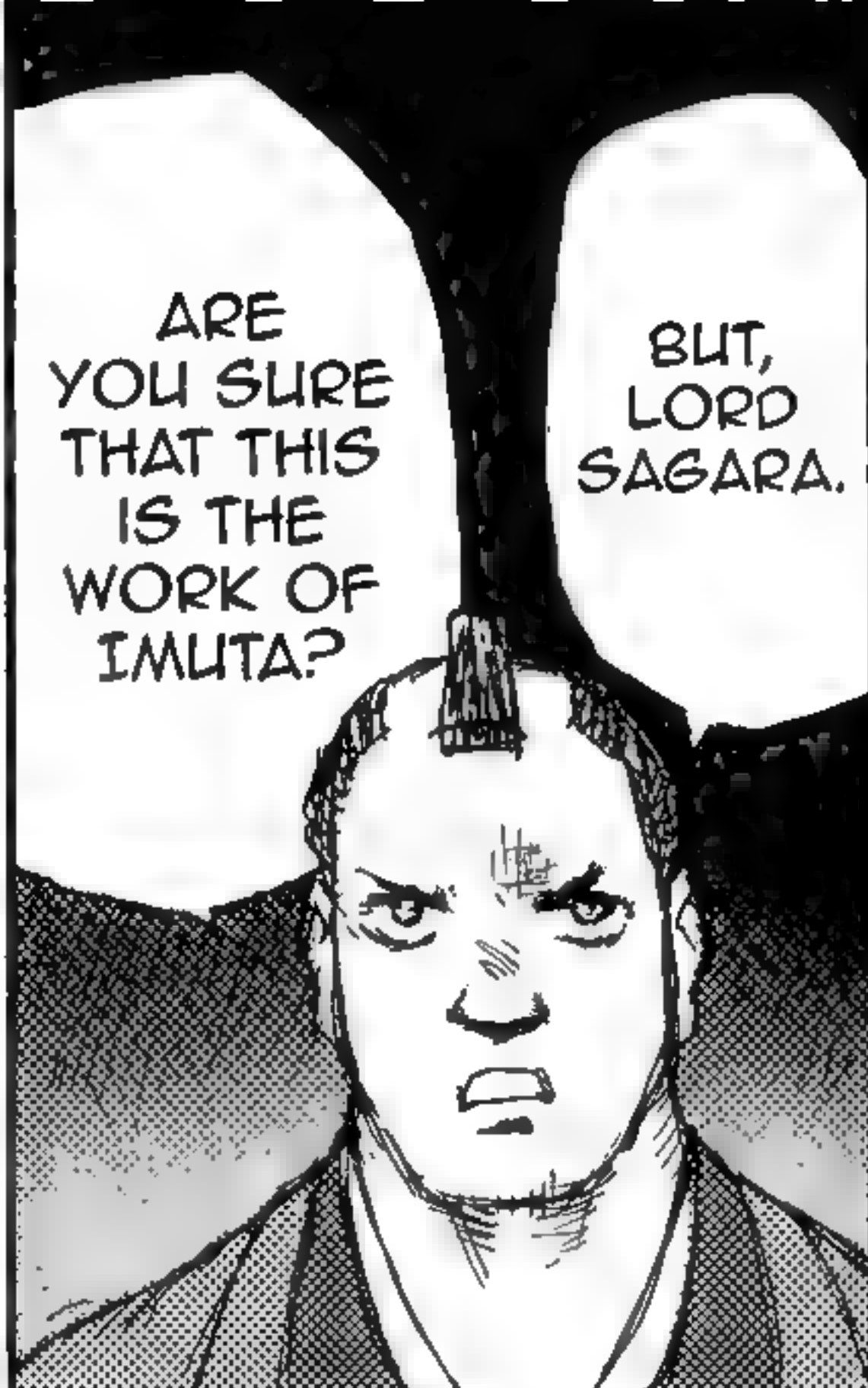
DON'T
MAKE ME
SAY IT
AGAIN AND
AGAIN.



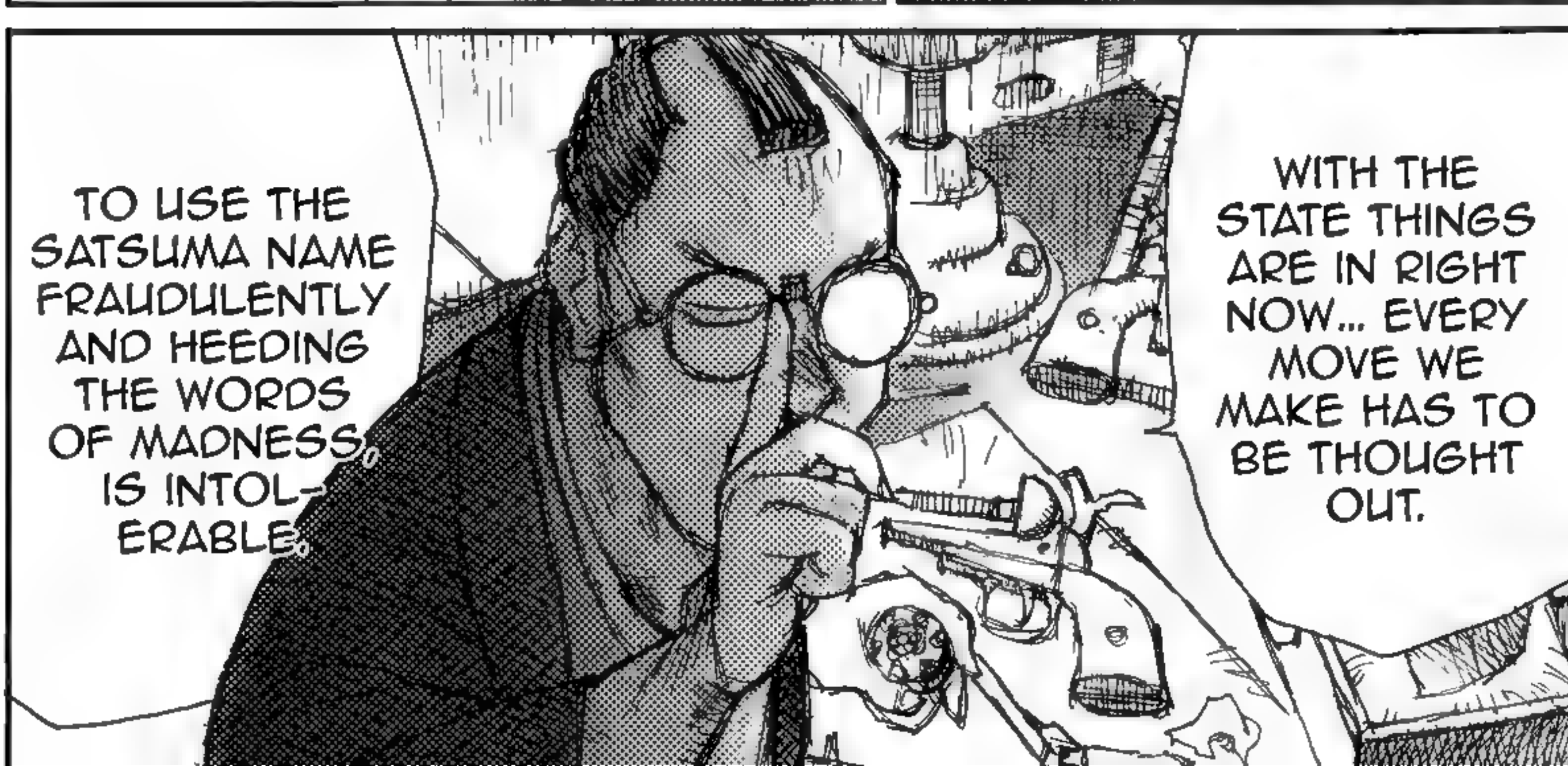
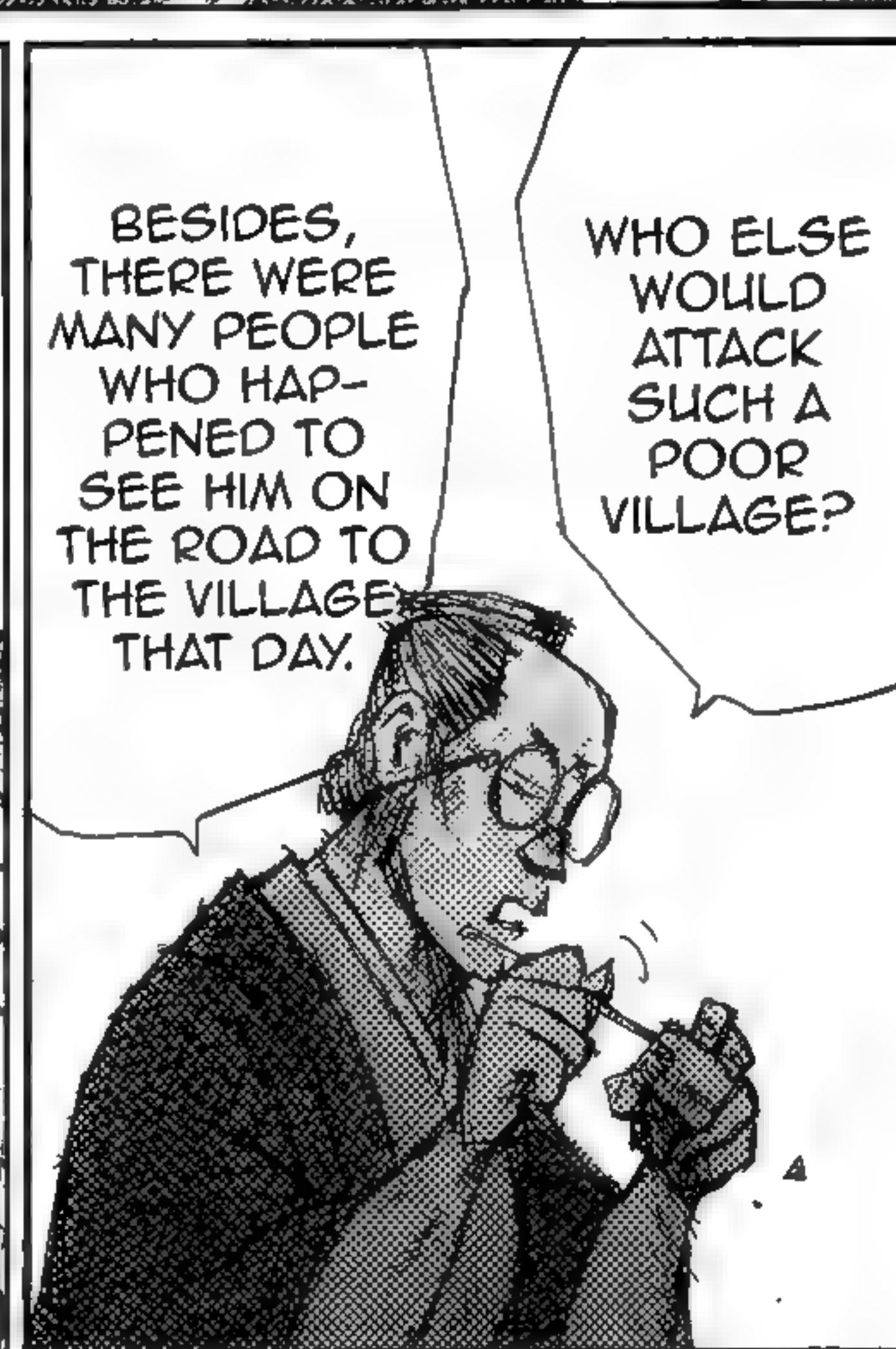




Author note
*Osadamegaki - A
goyoutou's
(in this case
a thief or
attacker
that's linked
to the
Satsuma)
guide or code.
It restricts
targets for
an attack to
"Merchants
and various
ronin that
help the
shogunate",
"Merchants
and
shogunate
officials that
hinder the
movements
of samurai
(in this case,
patriots and
imperial
loyalists)",
"Merchants
that deal
with foreign
goods", and
"Merchants
that have a
treasure
house".



BUT, LORD SAGARA.





IT'S THE
FAULT OF THE
NO-GOOD
ROGUES
TAKING
ADVANTAGE
OF THE
CONFLUSION.

A GOYOUTOU
IS BREAKING
THE OSADA-
MEGAKI, AS
WELL AS
FALSELY
PINNING
UNRELATED
INCIDENTS
ON US...



OUR ACTS
OF PASSION
MUST HAVE
A PURPOSE,
AND WE MUST
CONSTANTLY
PROMOTE
OUR LEGITI-
MACY.

WHACK.
WHACK.

IF WE
DON'T
CLEAR
THIS UP,
OUR GREAT
CAUSE
WILL FAIL.



USE
THEM.

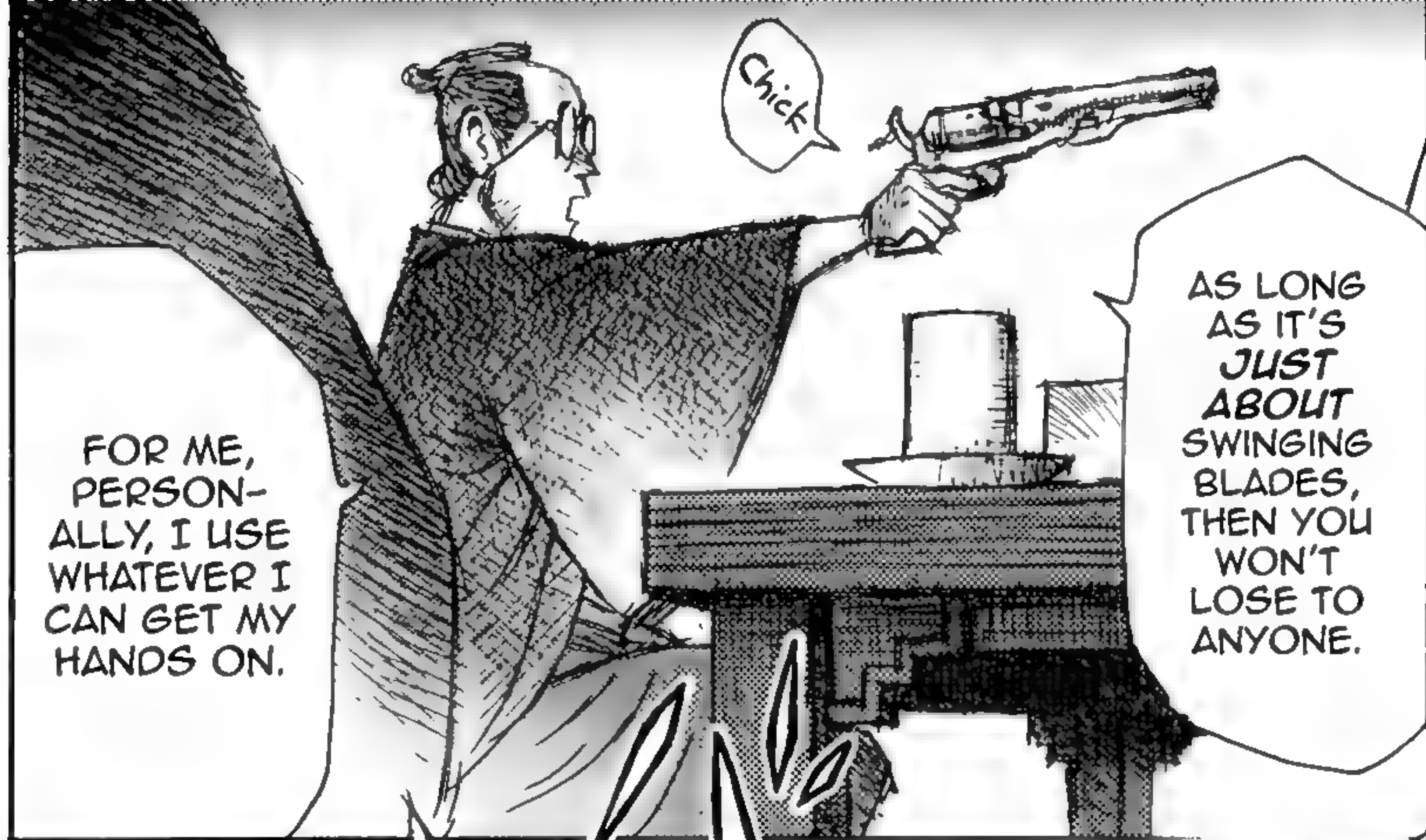
YOU HAVE
FOUR
OF YOUR
FOLLOWERS
STAYING
HERE,
DON'T
YOU?



I WILL
LEAVE THIS
MATTER
WITH YOU.

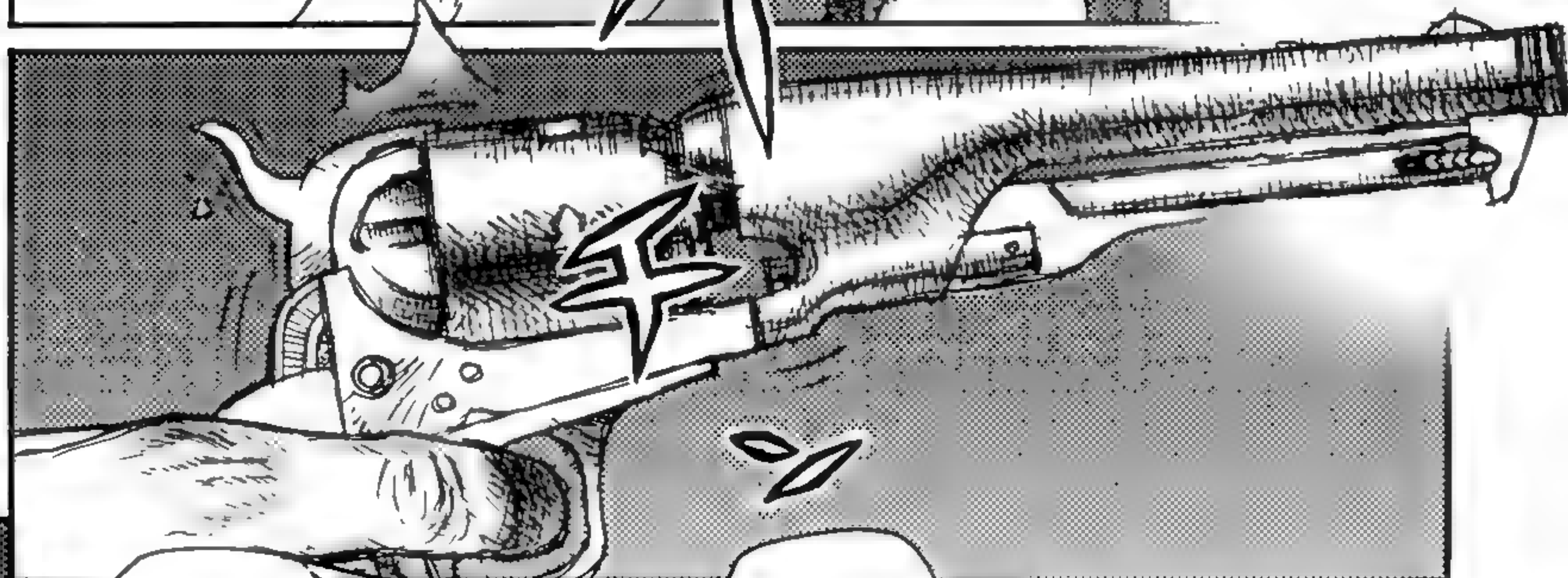
ANY-
WAY,

SFX:
Click

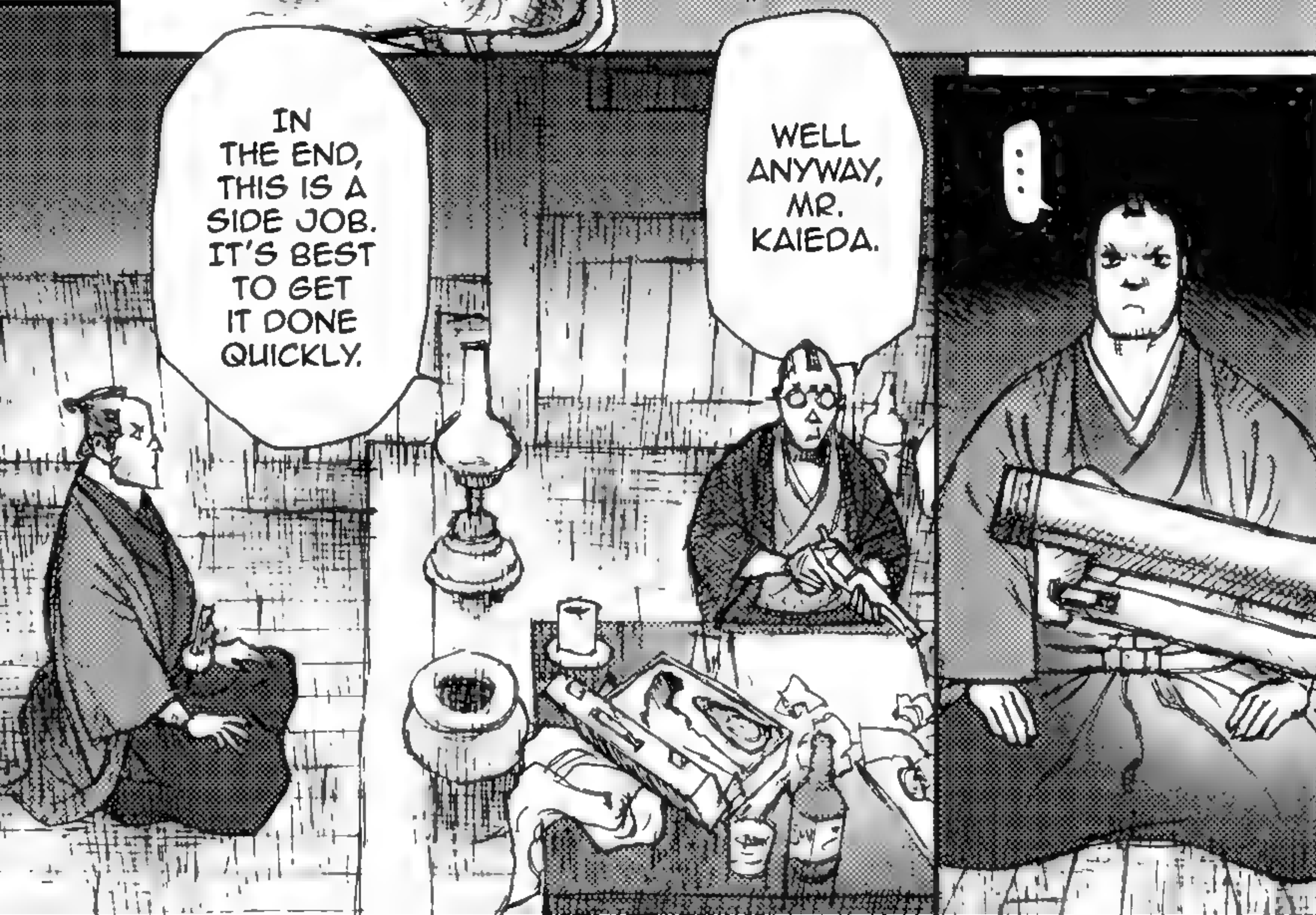


FOR ME,
PERSON-
ALLY, I USE
WHATEVER I
CAN GET MY
HANDS ON.

AS LONG
AS IT'S
JUST
ABOUT
SWINGING
BLADES,
THEN YOU
WON'T
LOSE TO
ANYONE.



SFX:
Clack!



IN
THE END,
THIS IS A
SIDE JOB.
IT'S BEST
TO GET
IT DONE
QUICKLY.

WELL
ANYWAY,
MR.
KAIEDA.



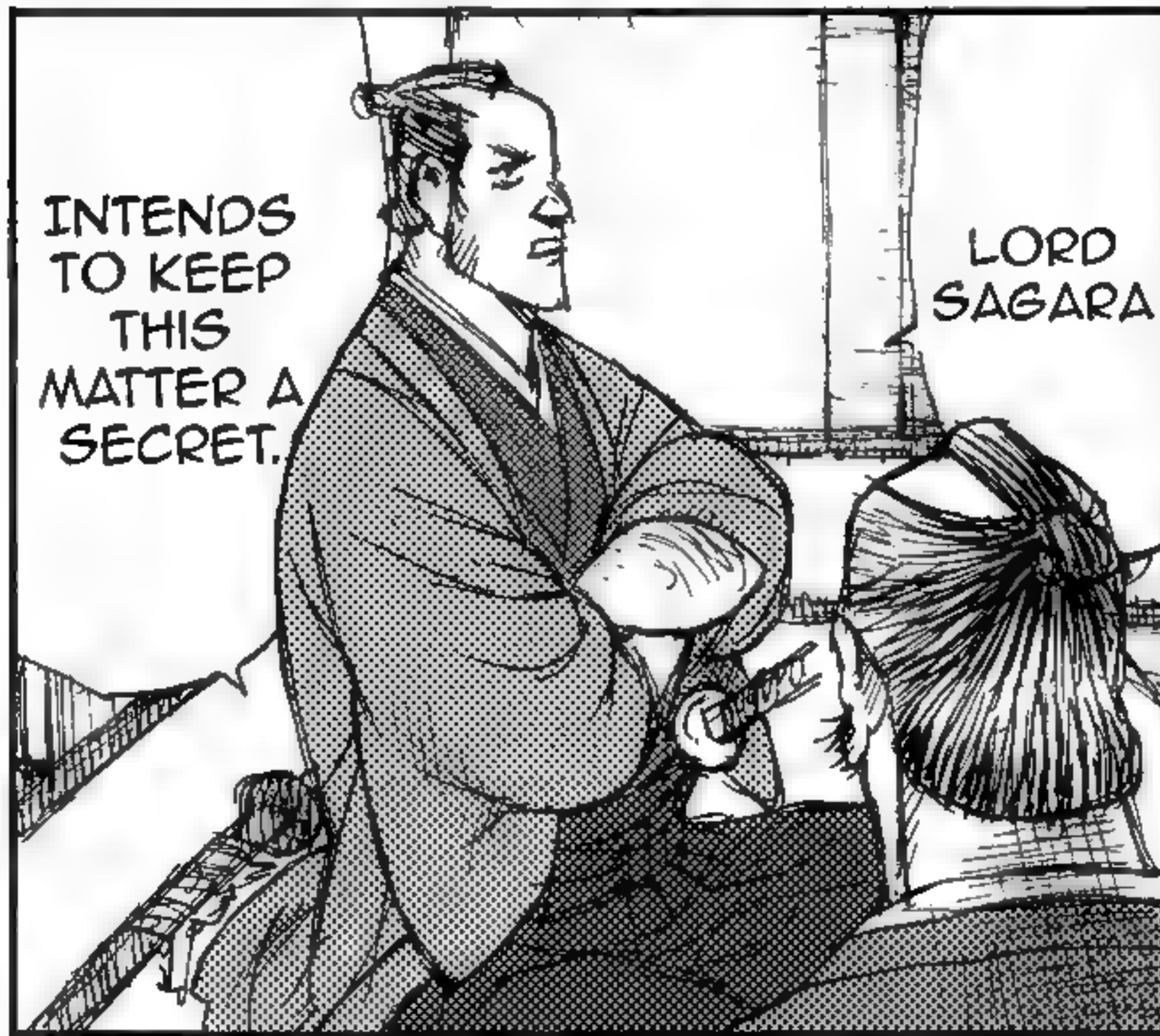
SO,
AFTER
THE
PEAS-
ANTS,

THEY
WANT US
TO KILL
EACH
OTHER...



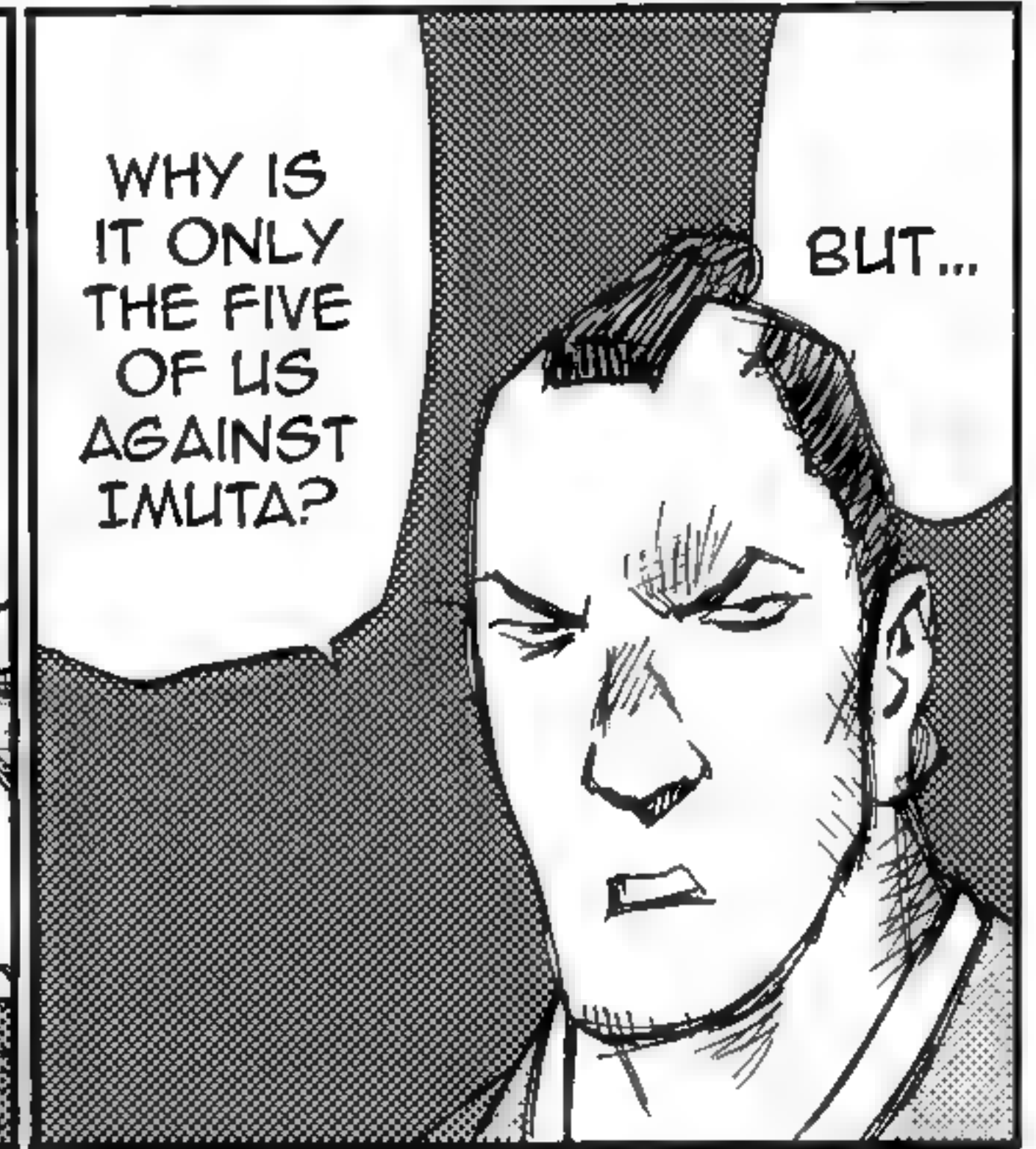
BUT
IMUTA IS
FORMID-
ABLE.

I'M
SURE YOU
ALREADY
KNOW
THIS.



INTENDS
TO KEEP
THIS
MATTER A
SECRET.

LORD
SAGARA



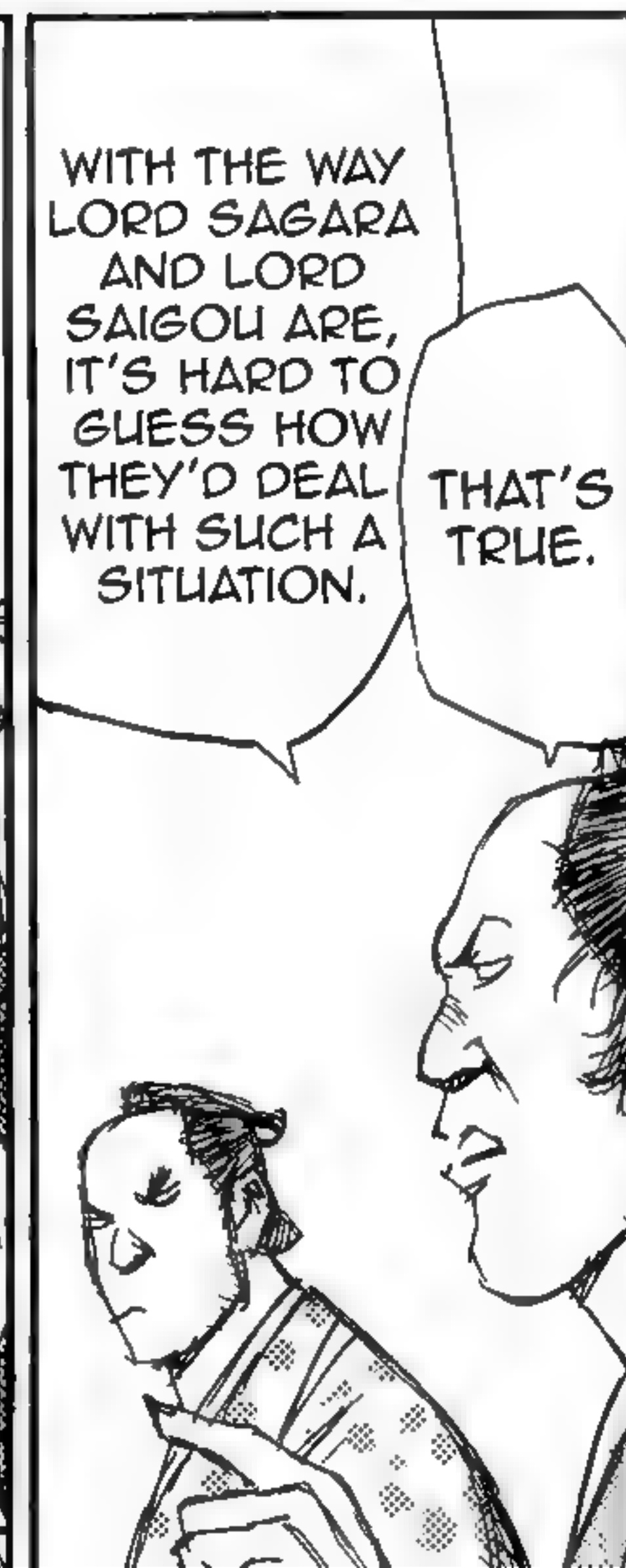
WHY IS
IT ONLY
THE FIVE
OF US
AGAINST
IMUTA?

BUT...



HAH, IF ONLY
THEY HAD
THOUGHT OF
US WHEN
THEY WERE
MAKING
THEIR
PLANS.

BASICALLY,
WHAT YOU'RE
SAYING IS
THAT THE
HIGHER UPS
WOULDN'T
HESITATE TO
SPREAD OUR
LEGS IF IT
HELPED
THEM.

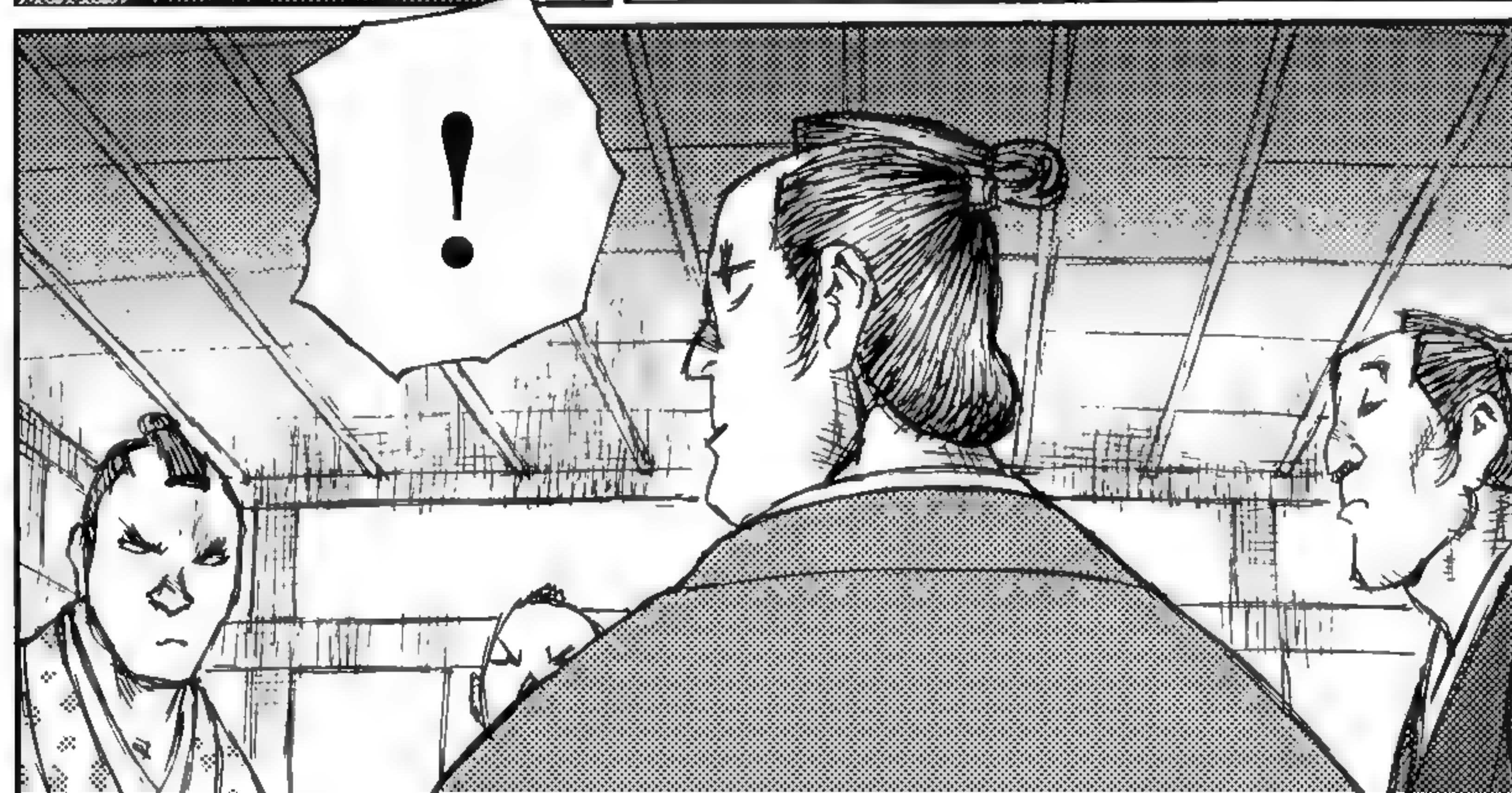


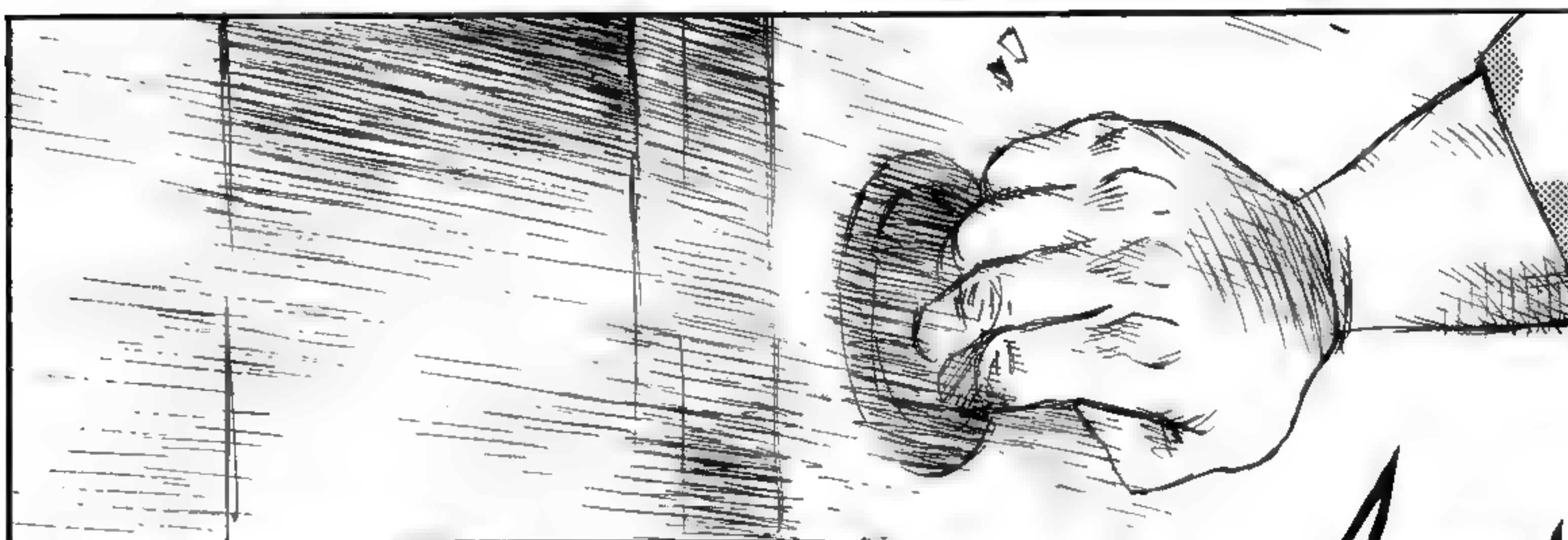
WITH THE WAY
LORD SAGARA
AND LORD
SAIGOU ARE,
IT'S HARD TO
GUESS HOW
THEY'D DEAL
WITH SUCH A
SITUATION.

THAT'S
TRUE.



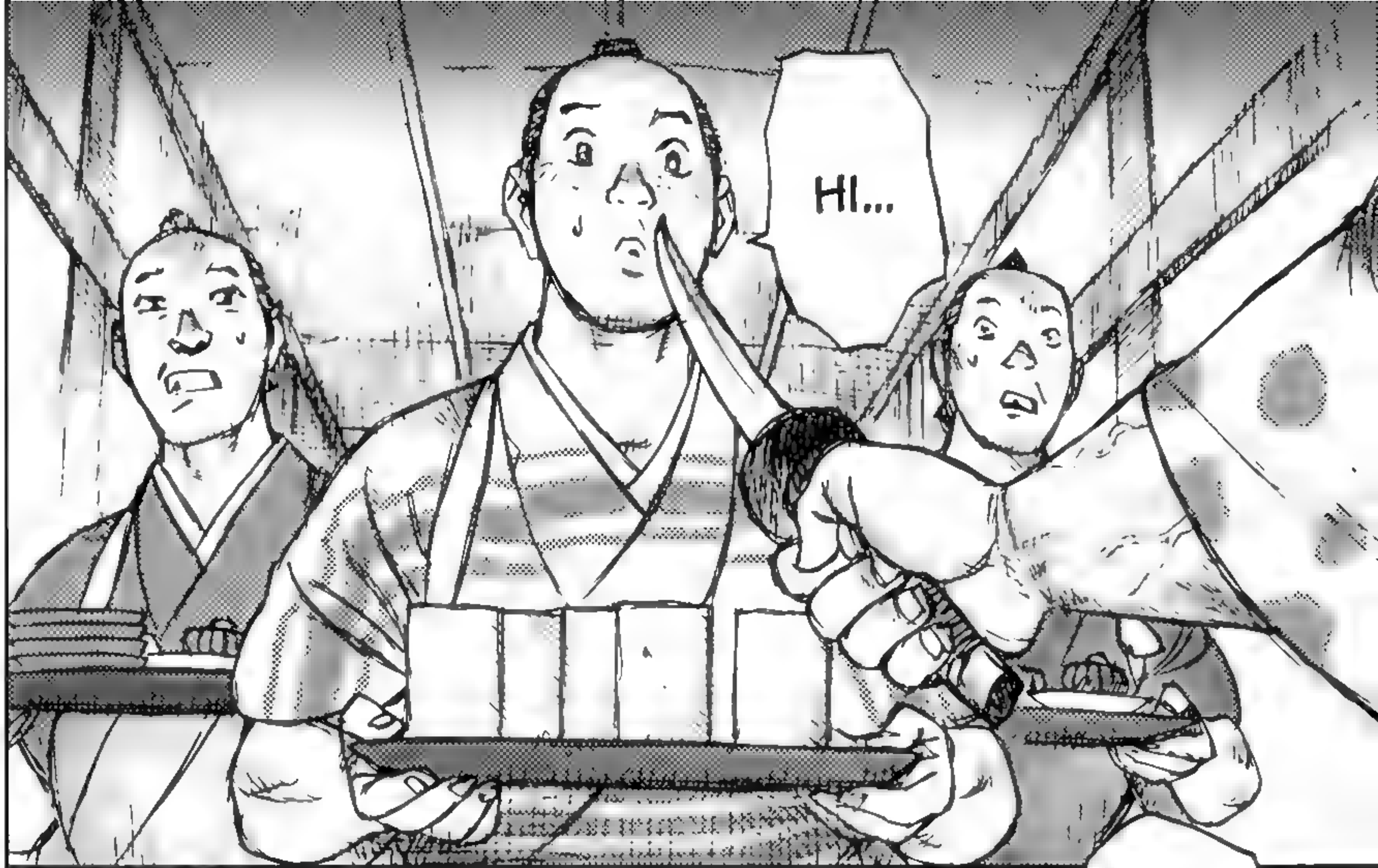
THERE WOULD
BE A RISK OF
SCANDAL IF
SOME PEOPLE
INVESTIGATED
OUR SUBORDI-
NATES AND
QUESTIONED
OUR POSI-
TIONS.



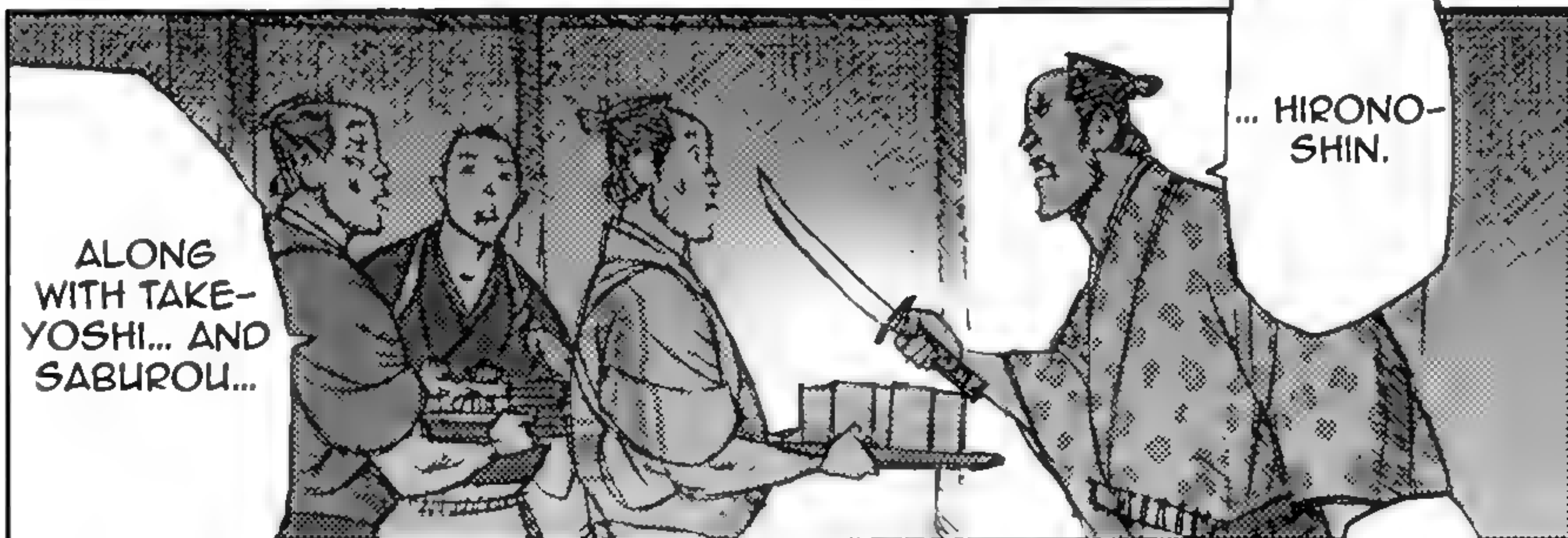


SFX:
Slam

**WHO'S
THERE!?**



HI...



... HIRONO-SHIN.

ALONG WITH TAKE-YOSHI... AND SABUROU...



AND IT SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING PRETTY IMPORTANT...

W-WELL, WE WERE BRINGING YOU SOME TEA AND SNACKS...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

WHAT'S THE MATTER?



DON'T
HESITATE
AND
COME IN!

IT
DOESN'T
MATTER!

WE WERE
WONDERING
IF IT WAS
ALRIGHT
FOR US TO
ENTER...

WHAT
WAS
THAT!?



HMM...

I TRIED
MAKING
THESE BY
COPYING THE
METHODS
USED BY THE
POPULAR
SWEETS
STORE.

EXCUSE
US.



IF YOU HAVE
A PROBLEM
WITH THAT,
I'LL EAT IT
FOR YOU,
KUWAYAMA.

I'VE NEVER
HEARD OF
A SAMURAI
WHO'S
BETTER AT
MAKING
SWEETS
THAN HE IS
USING THE
SWORD.

WHAT
!?

YES...
I HOPE
THAT IT
SUITS
YOUR
TASTE...

SO, YOU
MADE
THESE
YOUR-
SELVES?

IT MIGHT BE
BETTER TO
FOCUS ON
IMPROVING
YOUR SKILLS
AT MAKING
SWEETS.

THAT'S
TRUE...

THE
CHOSHU
FIGHTERS
DOWN IN
SHIMONOSEKI
COULDN'T
DO A THING
AGAINST
EUROPEAN
WEAPONS
AND TAC-
TICS.

FROM
THIS BATTLE
FORWARDS,
THERE WON'T
BE ANY NEED
FOR OUR
SWORD
SKILLS.

YES!

Y-

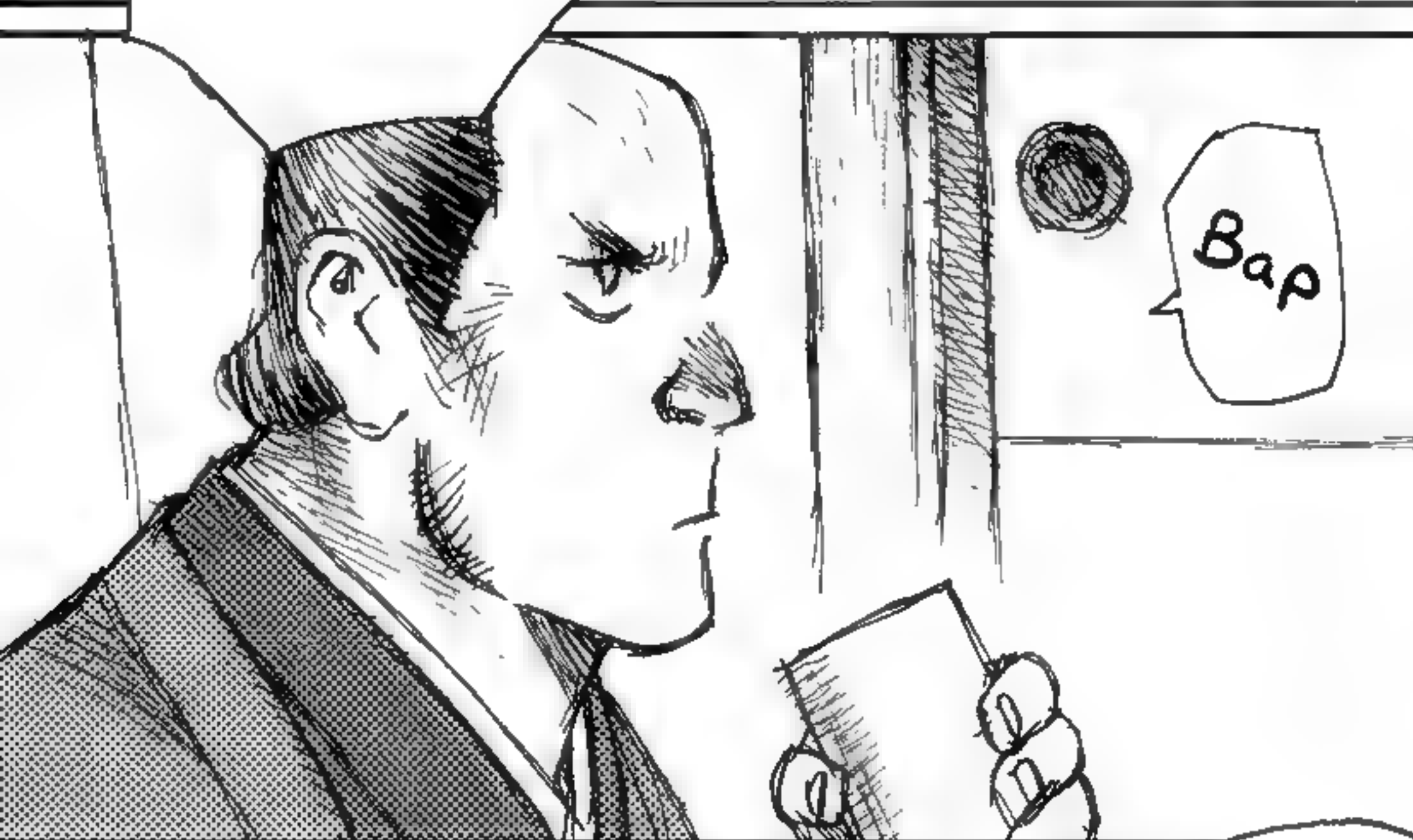
BY THE
WAY YOU
THREE.

IT
SEEMED
LIKE YOU
WERE QUITE
CLOSE TO
IMUTA...

YOU
HAVEN'T
MET WITH
HIM RE-
CENTLY,
HAVE YOU?

WE HAVEN'T
HEARD FROM
LORD IMUTA
EVER SINCE
HE LEFT HIS
HOUSE...

WELL,
ABOUT
THAT...



YES, WE WILL TAKE OUR LEAVE!

YOU MAY GO.

I SEE.

...

Bap

IMUTA IS A HARD TO UNDERSTAND MAN, IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPREHEND.

IT'S NOT JUST A SMALL AMOUNT OF PEOPLE WHO ADORE IMUTA.

IT'S NOT JUST THOSE THREE...

THAT'S TRUE.

EVEN SO, PEOPLE MAY TURN ON US, CONSIDERING WE DON'T HAVE AS MUCH INFLUENCE AS HIM.





SOMEONE
WHO IS
ALREADY
WOUNDED
WILL BE
NO MATCH
AGAINST SIR
KAIEDA'S
SWORD.

WHILE
HE IS A
MONSTER,



FROM THE
BEGINNING,
EVER SINCE
WE ARRIVED IN
EDO, WE HAVE
RESOLVED TO
BE THE ONES
WITH NO
FUTURE.



TAKE-
DA...



BUT...
EVEN
SO...

WE DO
NOT NEED
YOUR SYM-
PATHY!



IT ALL
ACCUMU-
LATES.

IF NO ONE
IS ABLE TO
BECOME THE
FOUNDATION,
THE WHOLE
PLAN WILL
FAIL.

WHILE
OUR OWN
ABILITIES
MIGHT BE
OF LITTLE
VALUE,



WELL...
THEY'RE
NOT
WORTH
MUCH
AT THE
MOMENT.

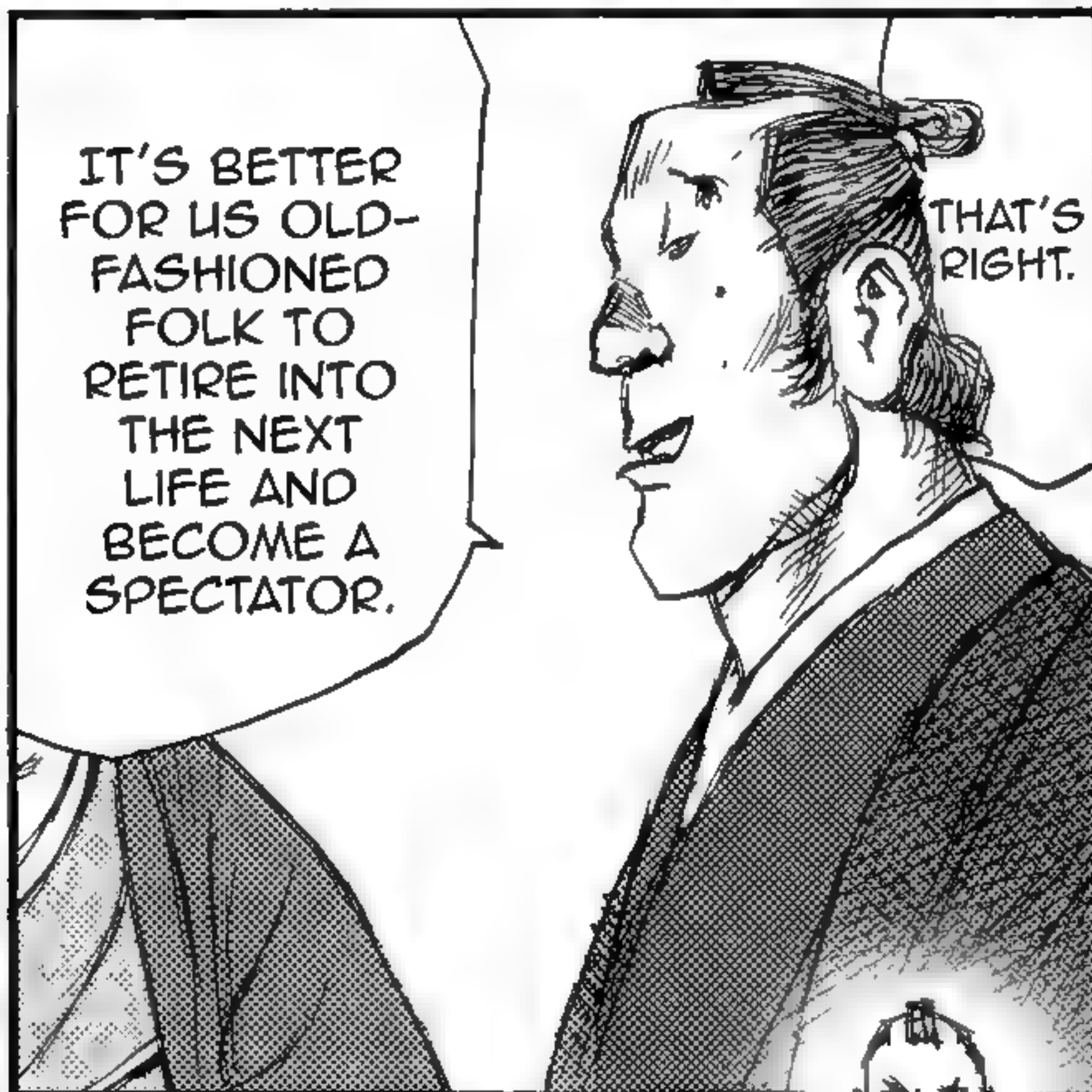
AFTER-
WARDS,
THE BOYS
WILL BE
THE ONES
TO RISE.



IF WE
DON'T
MOVE NOW,
THERE WILL
BE NO
PLACE
FOR OUR
SKILLS.

NOT ONLY
THAT, BUT
IT IS NO
LONGER
THE ERA OF
SWORDS.

SFX:
Clack



IT'S BETTER
FOR US OLD-
FASHIONED
FOLK TO
RETIRE INTO
THE NEXT
LIFE AND
BECOME A
SPECTATOR.

THAT'S
RIGHT.



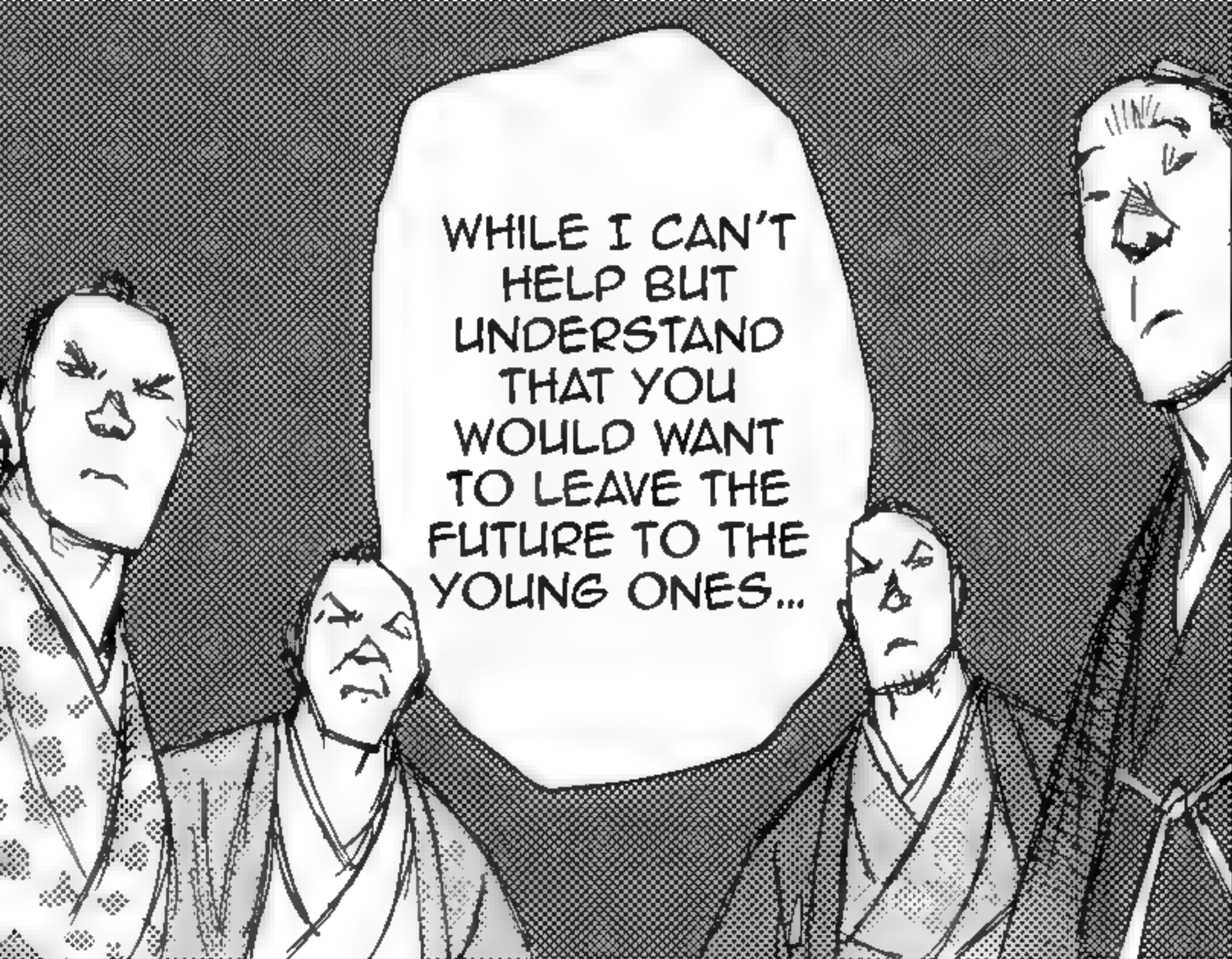
NO NEED
TO WORRY,
DESPITE
THEIR AP-
PEARANCE
THEY'RE
ALSO
MASURAO...

TL/N &
PR/N:
Referenced
in chapter
14. Manly,
true men.

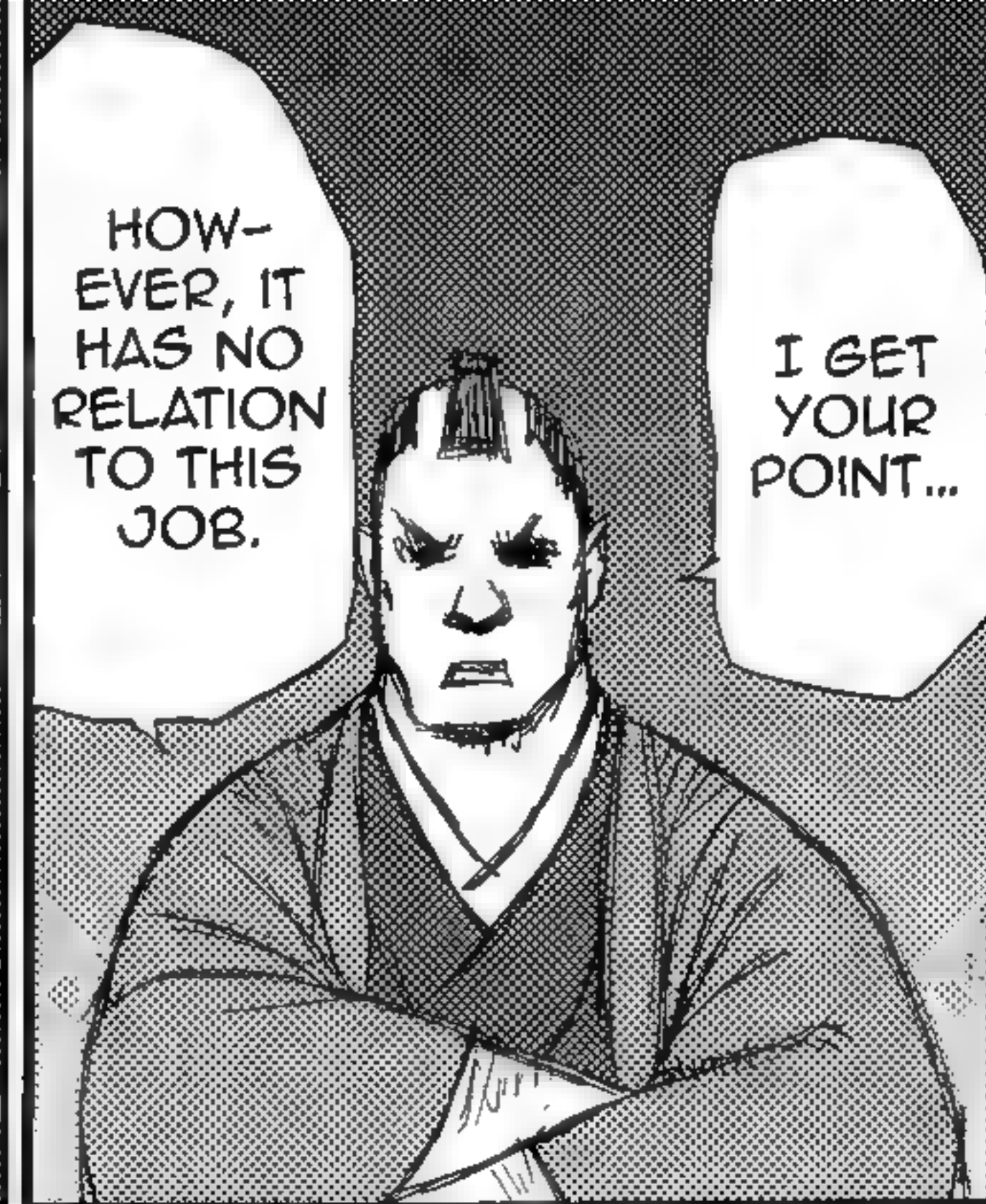


**THERE'S
NO OTHER
OPTION!**

**LET'S DO
THIS, SIR
KAIEDA!**



WHILE I CAN'T
HELP BUT
UNDERSTAND
THAT YOU
WOULD WANT
TO LEAVE THE
FUTURE TO THE
YOUNG ONES...



HOW-
EVER, IT
HAS NO
RELATION
TO THIS
JOB.

I GET
YOUR
POINT...

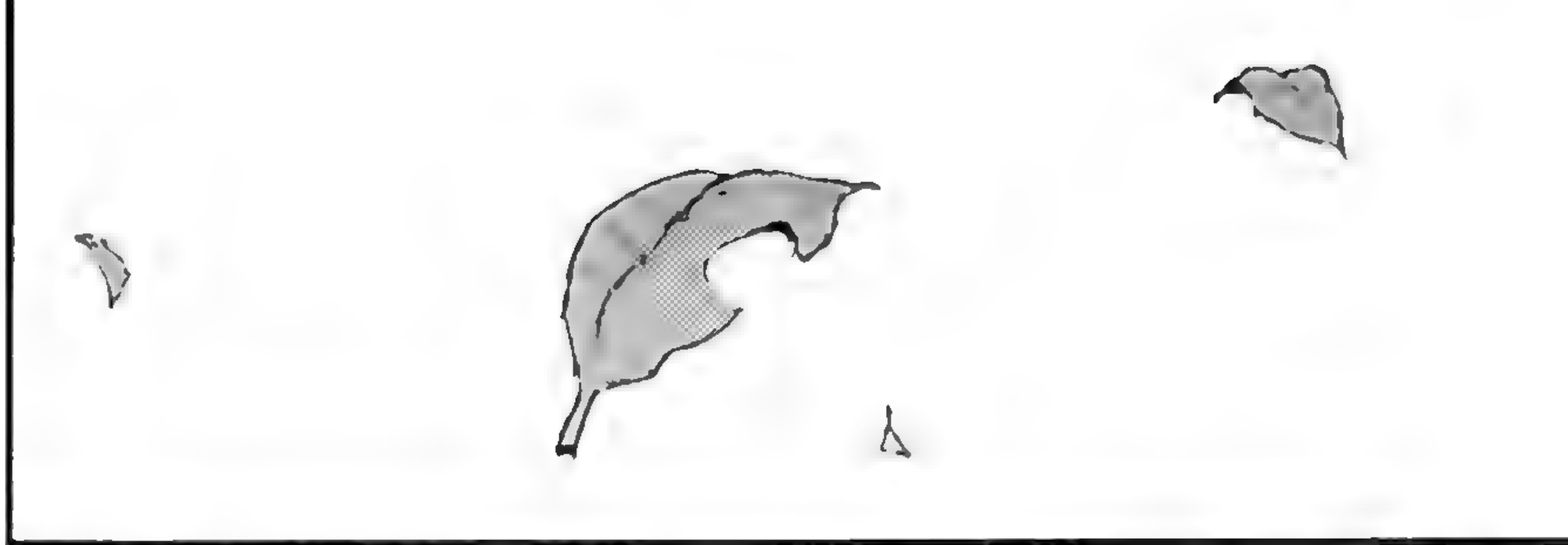


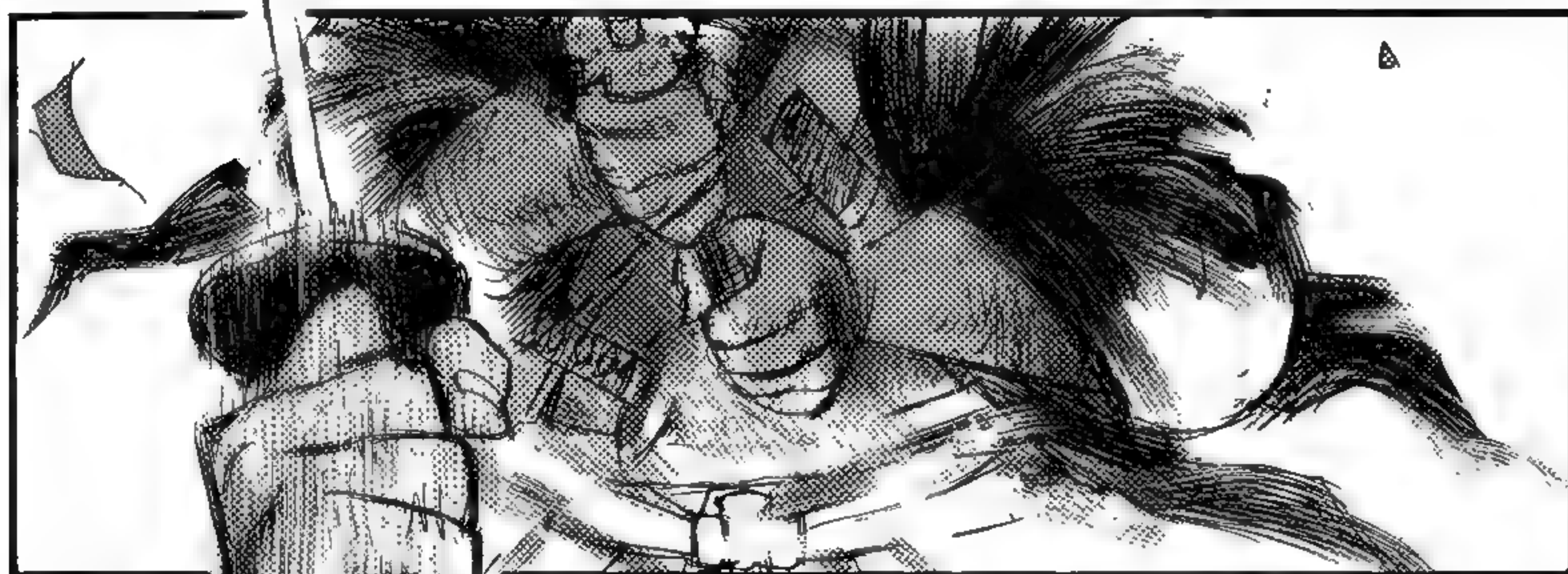
SIR
KAIEDA...



I WILL
DEFINITELY
BRING
DOWN
IMUTA.

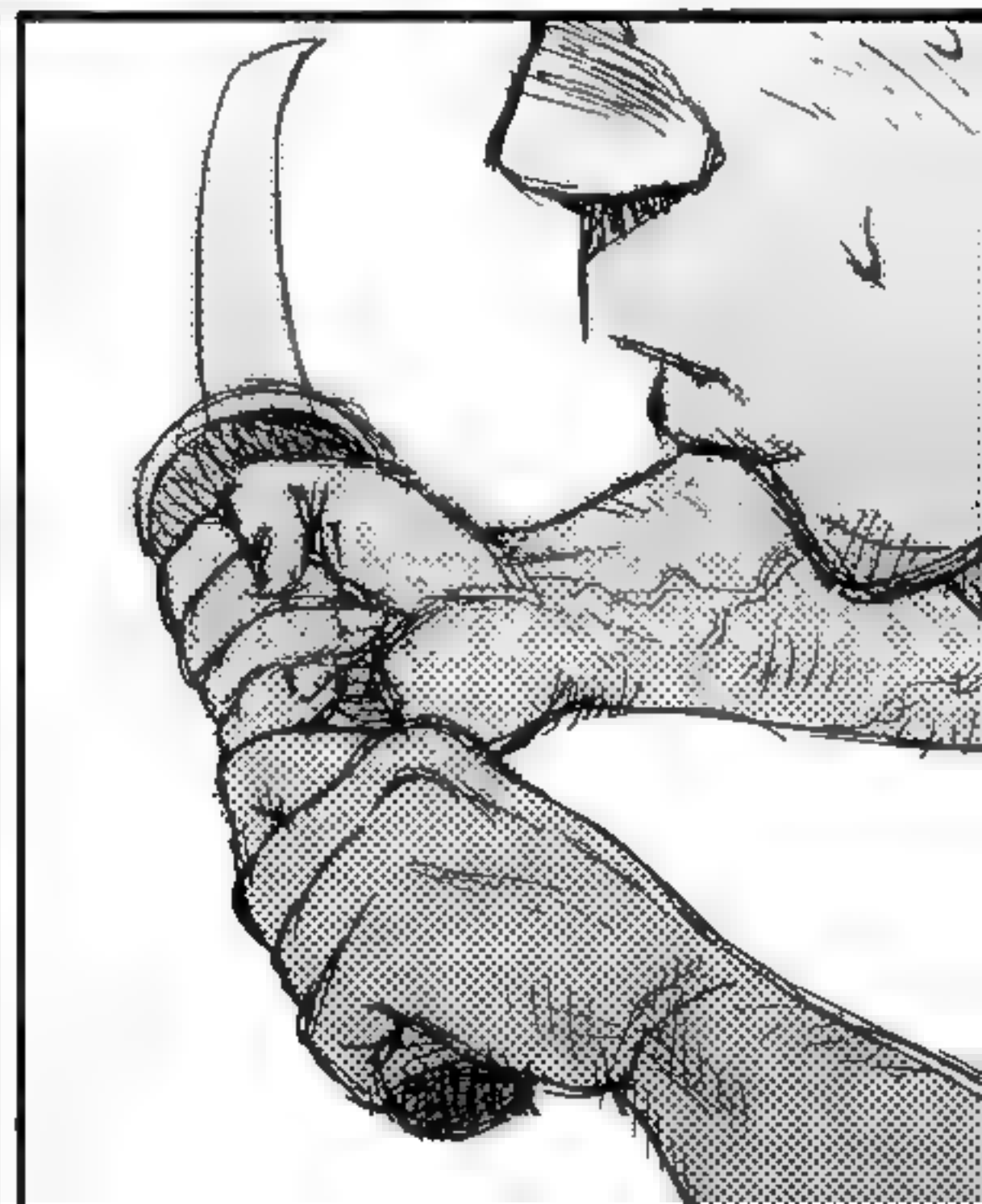
DON'T
WORRY.

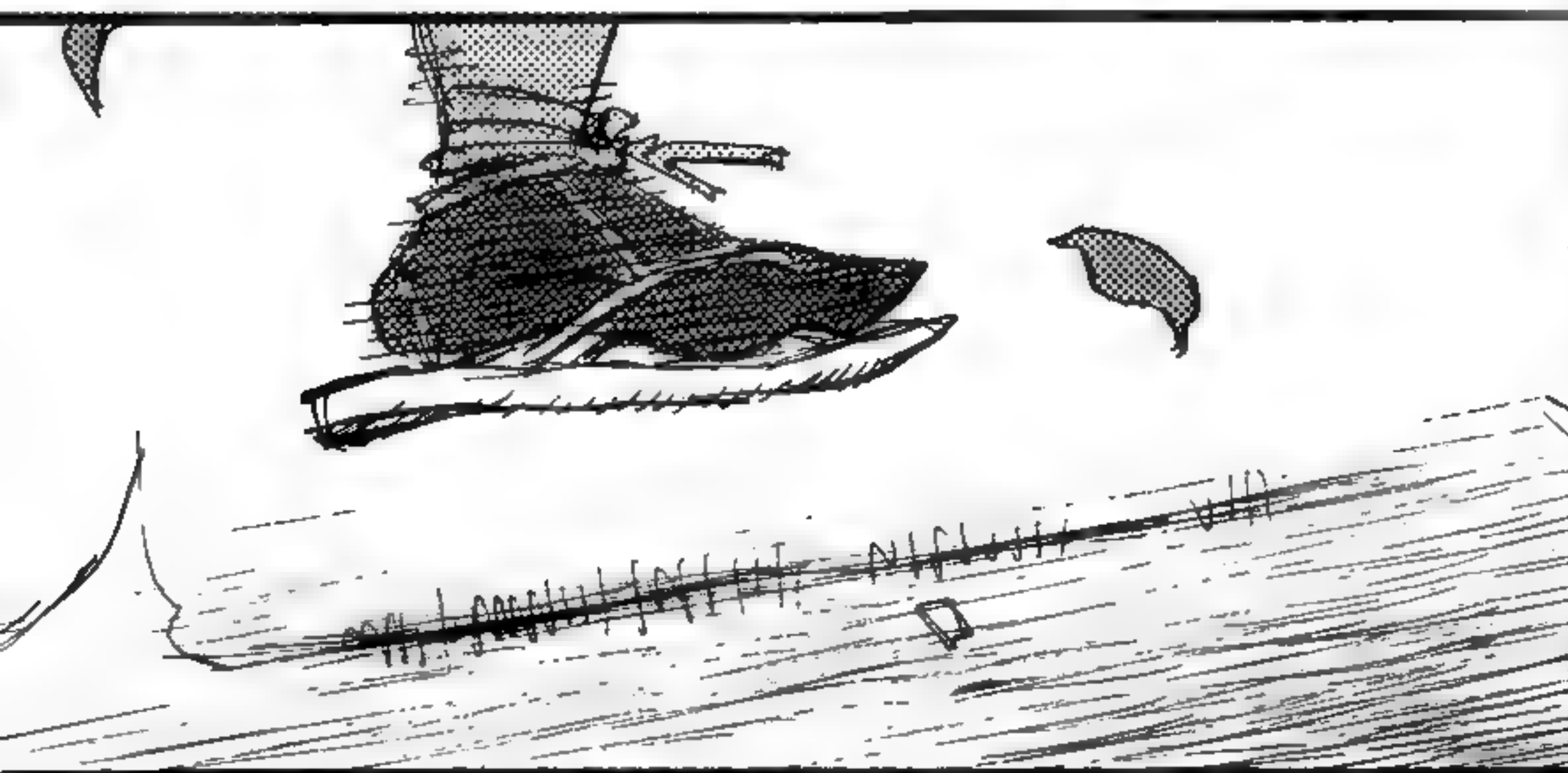


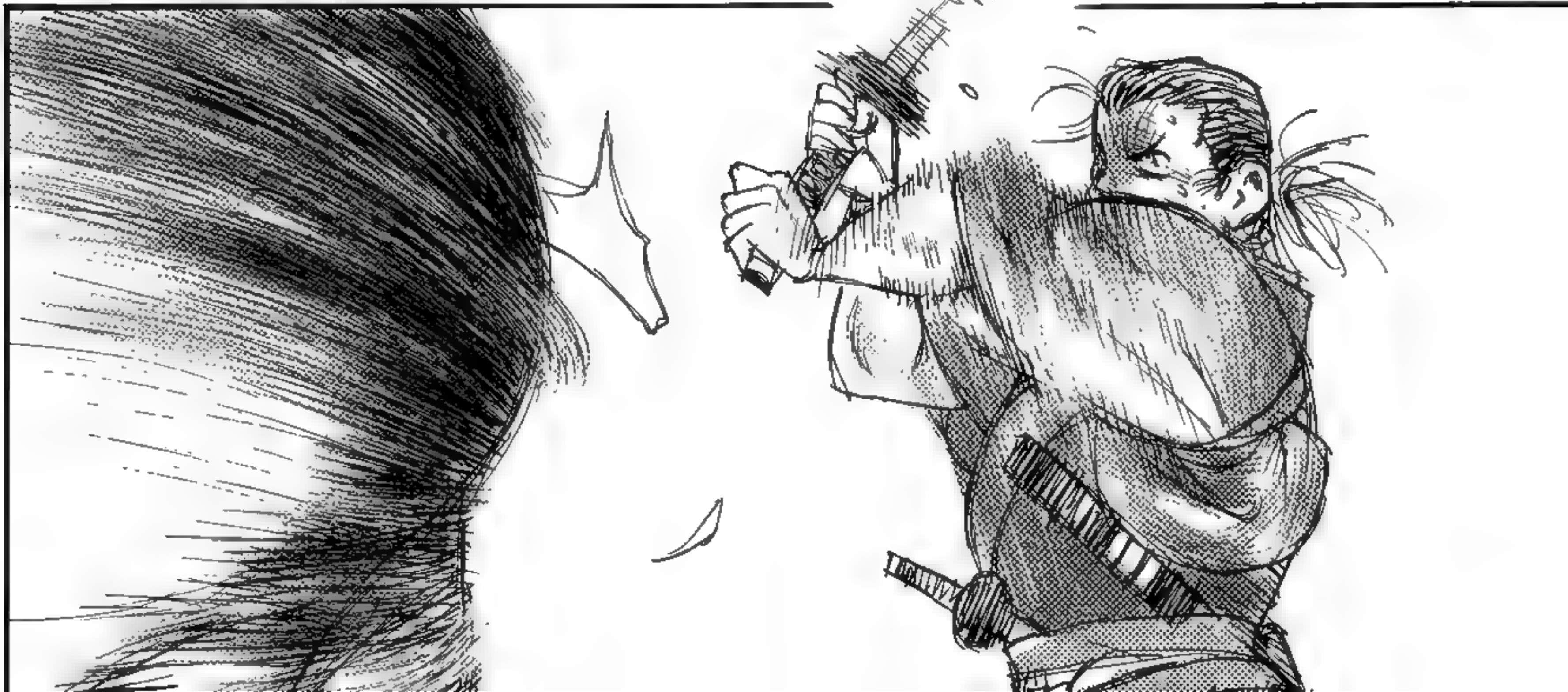
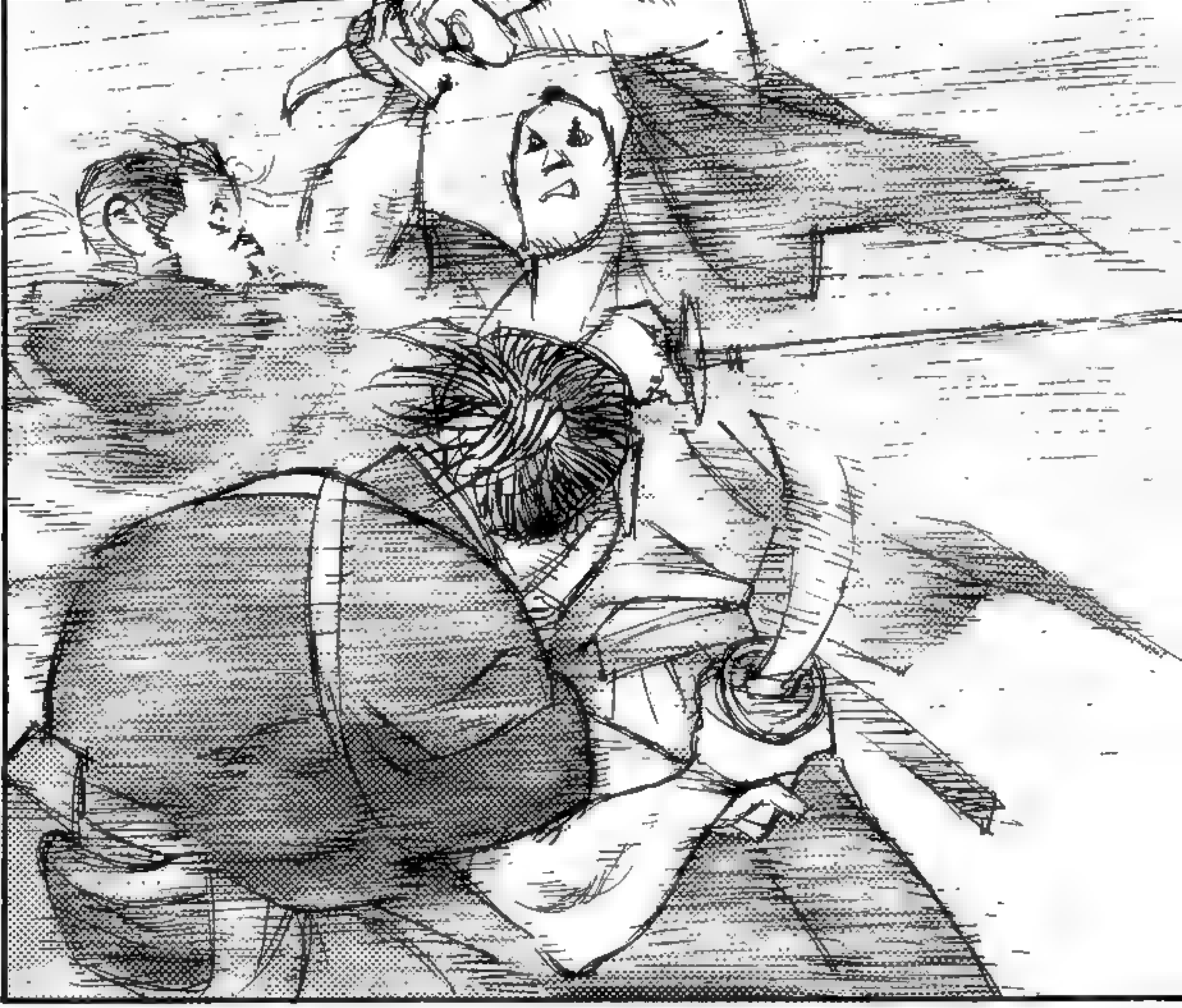
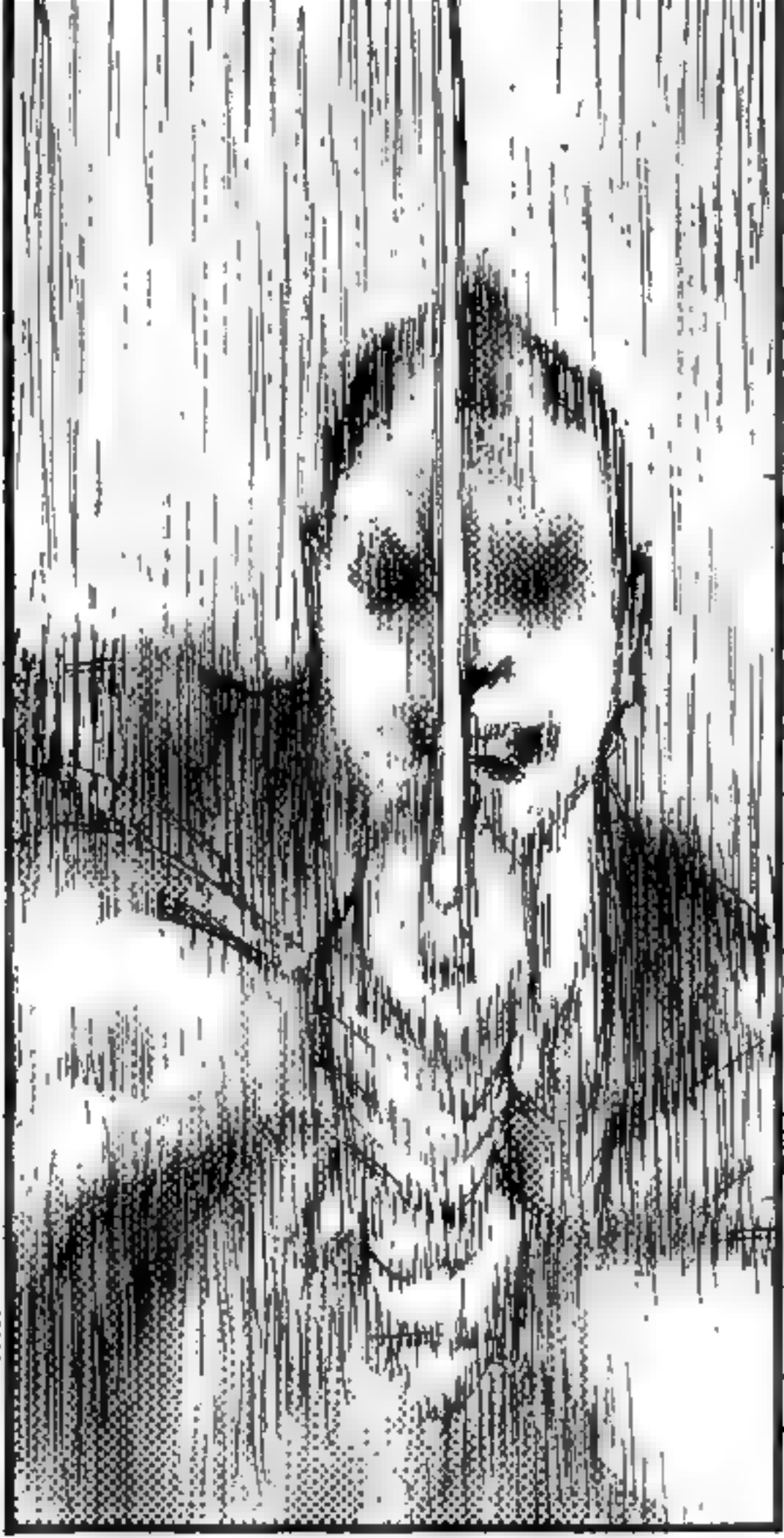


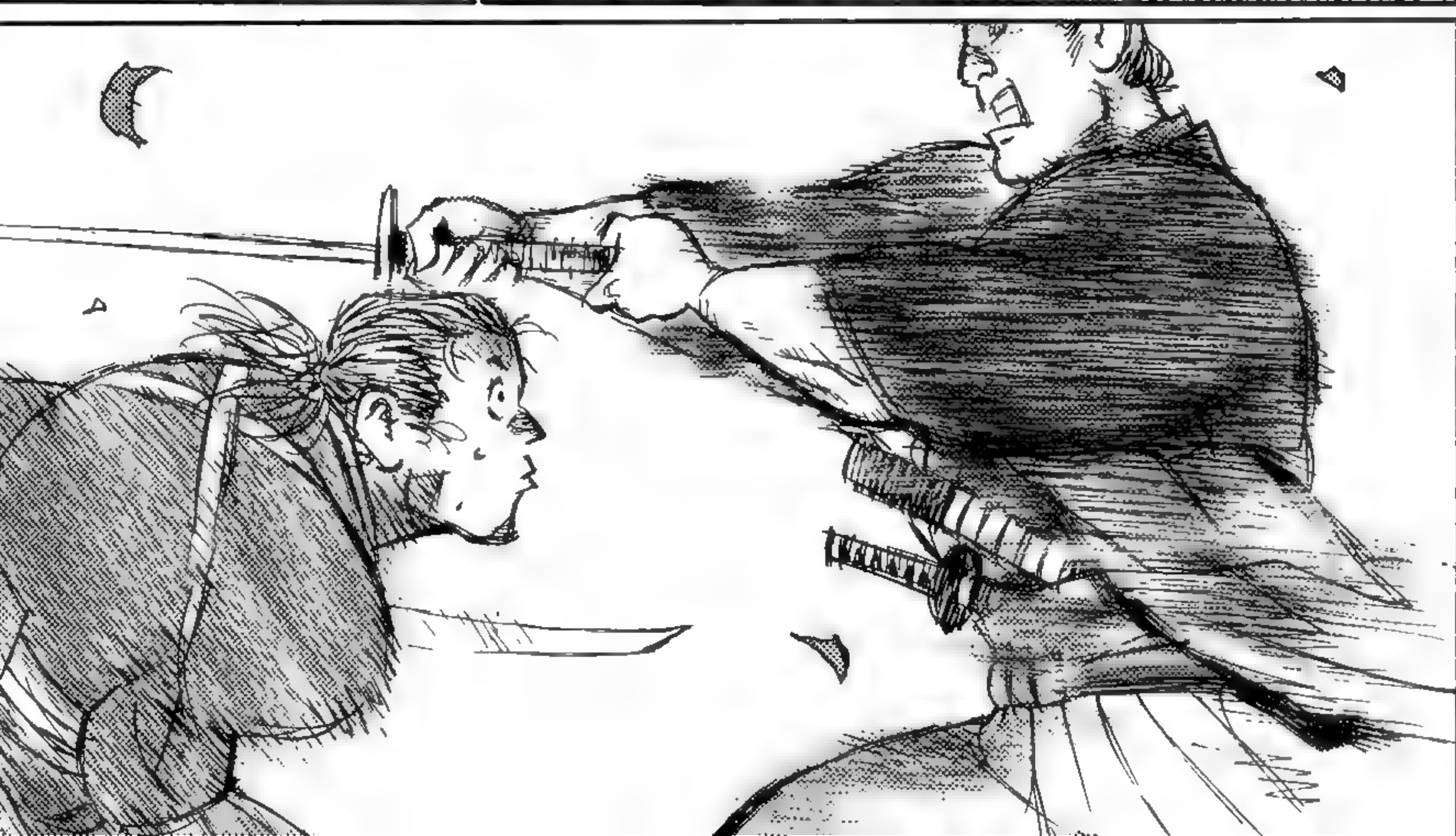
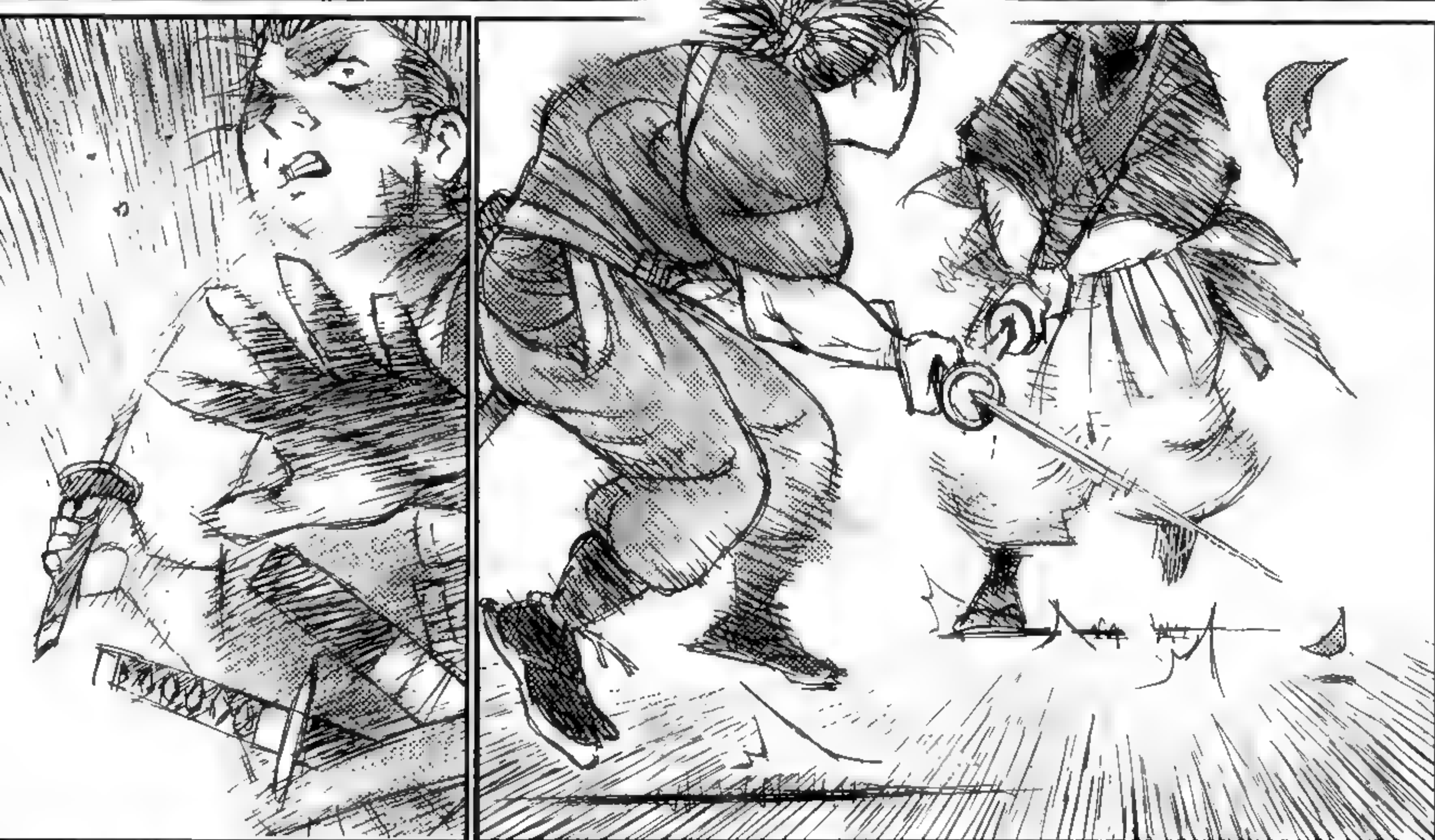
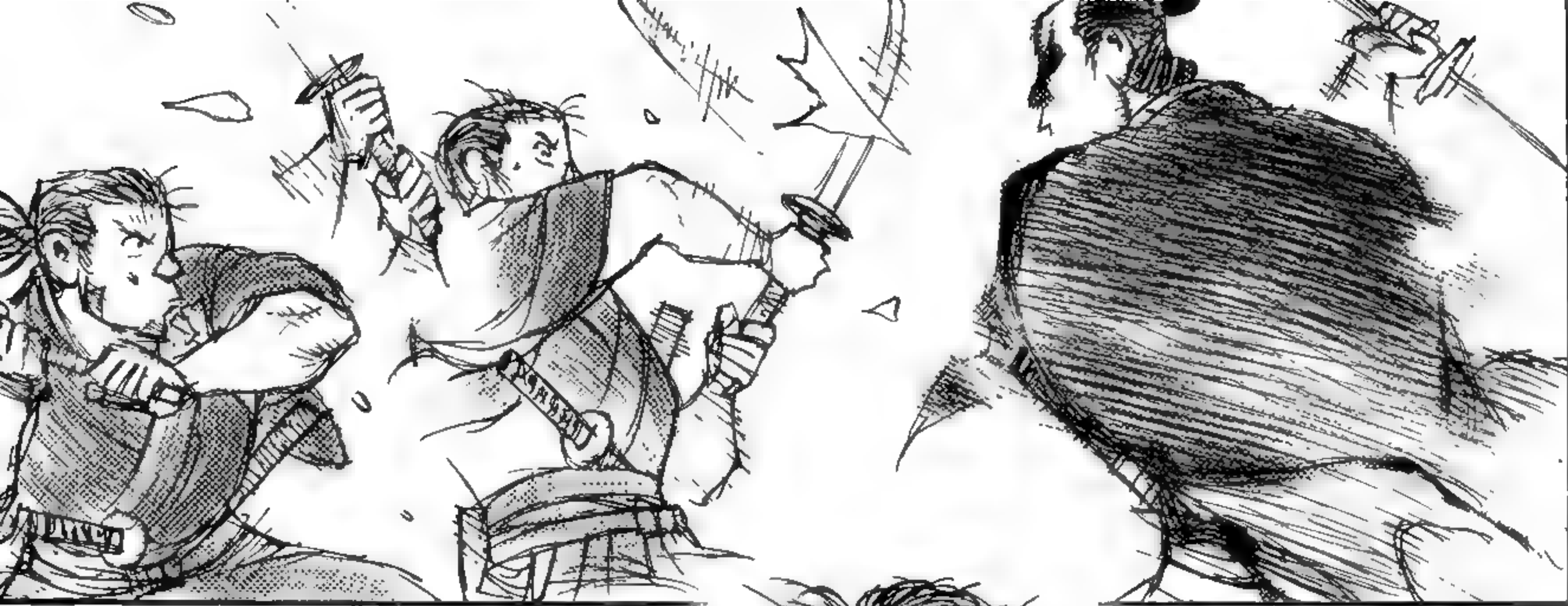


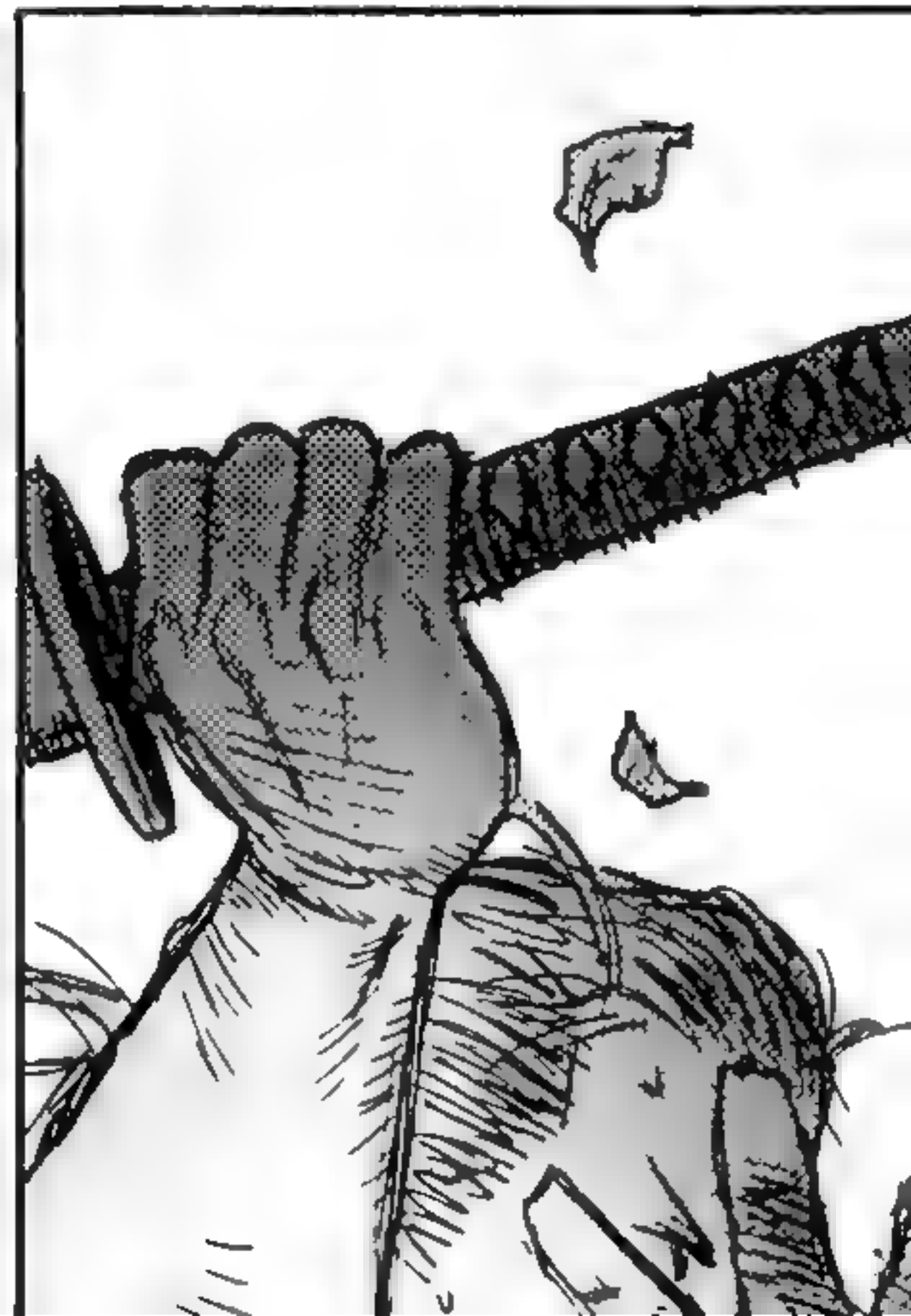
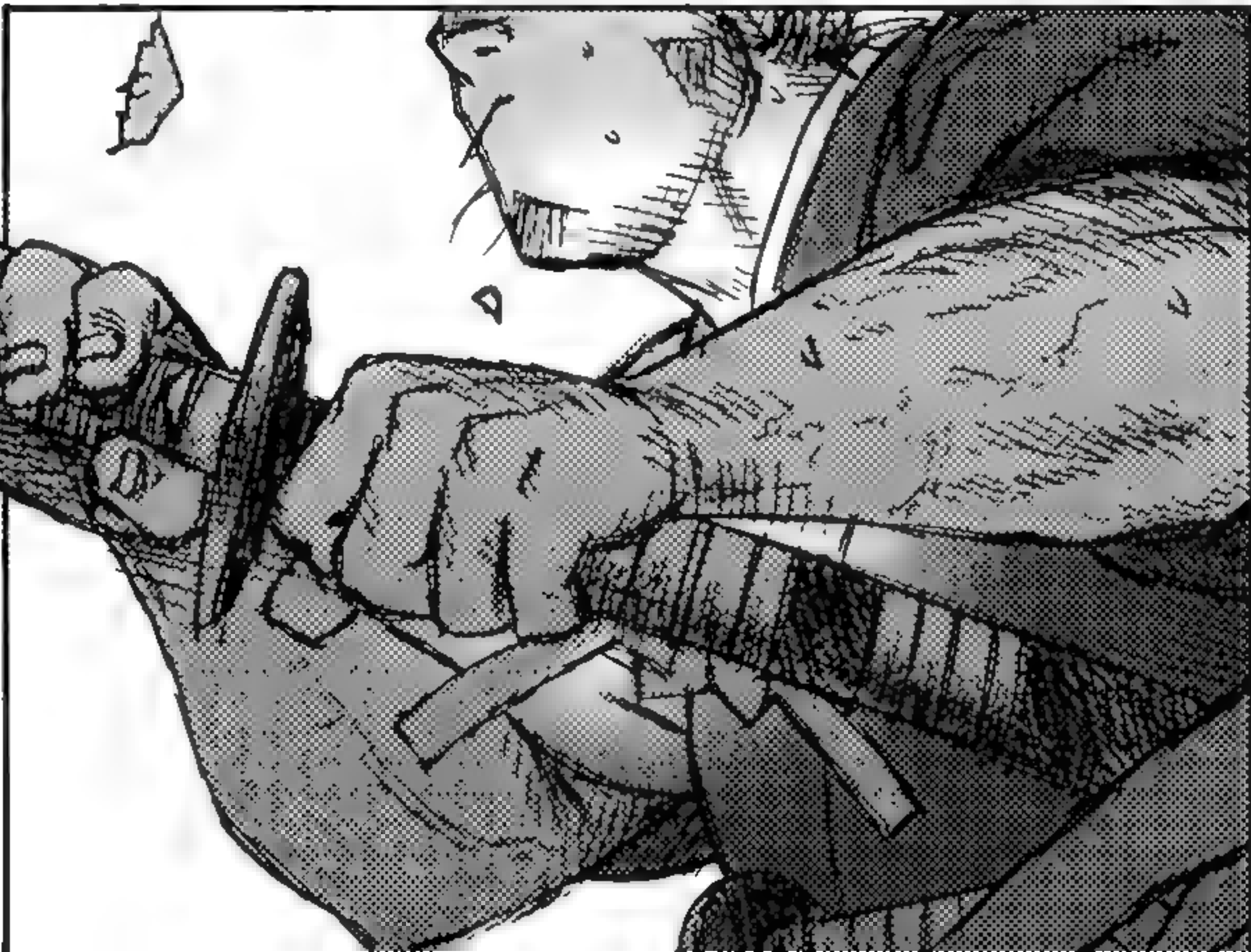
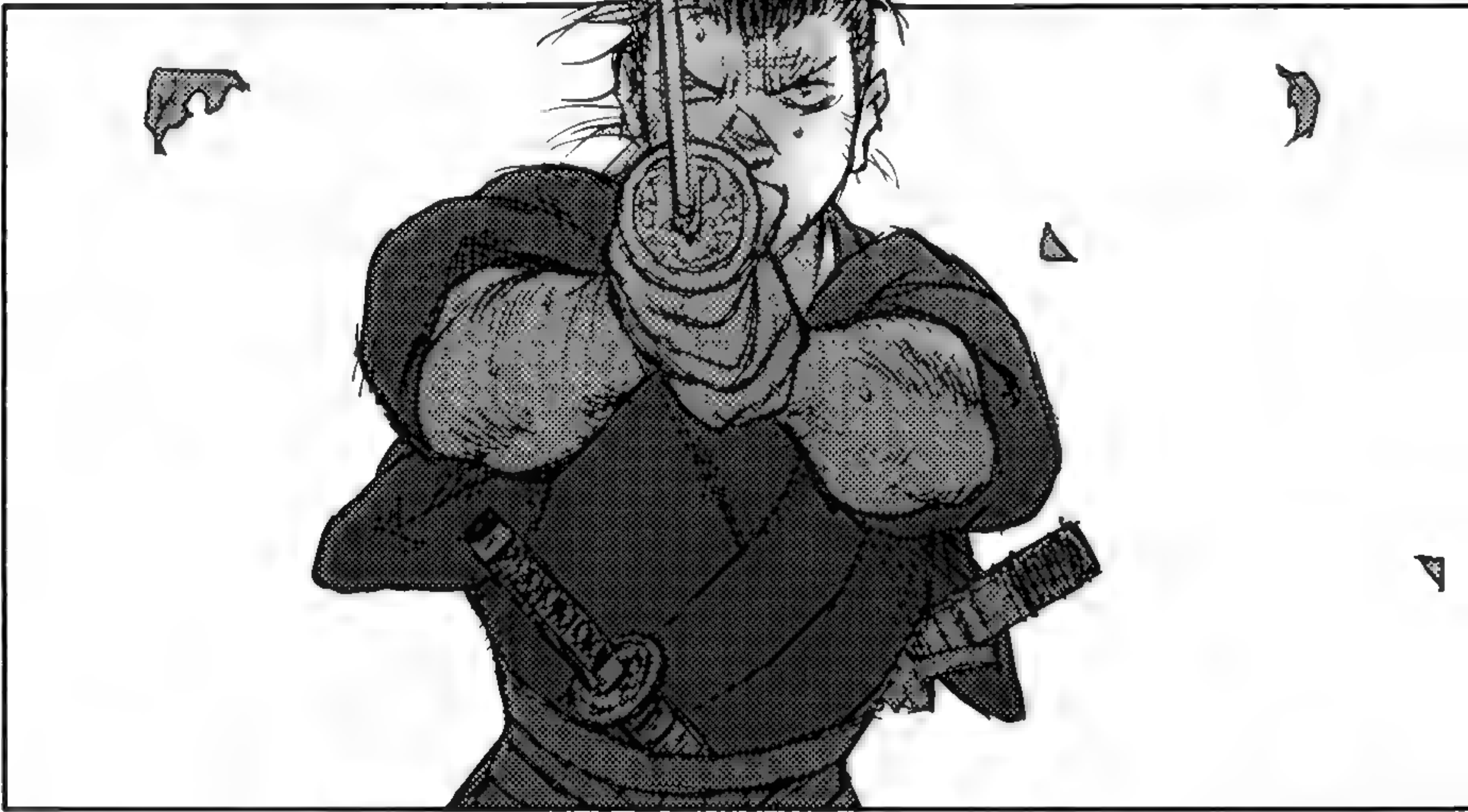
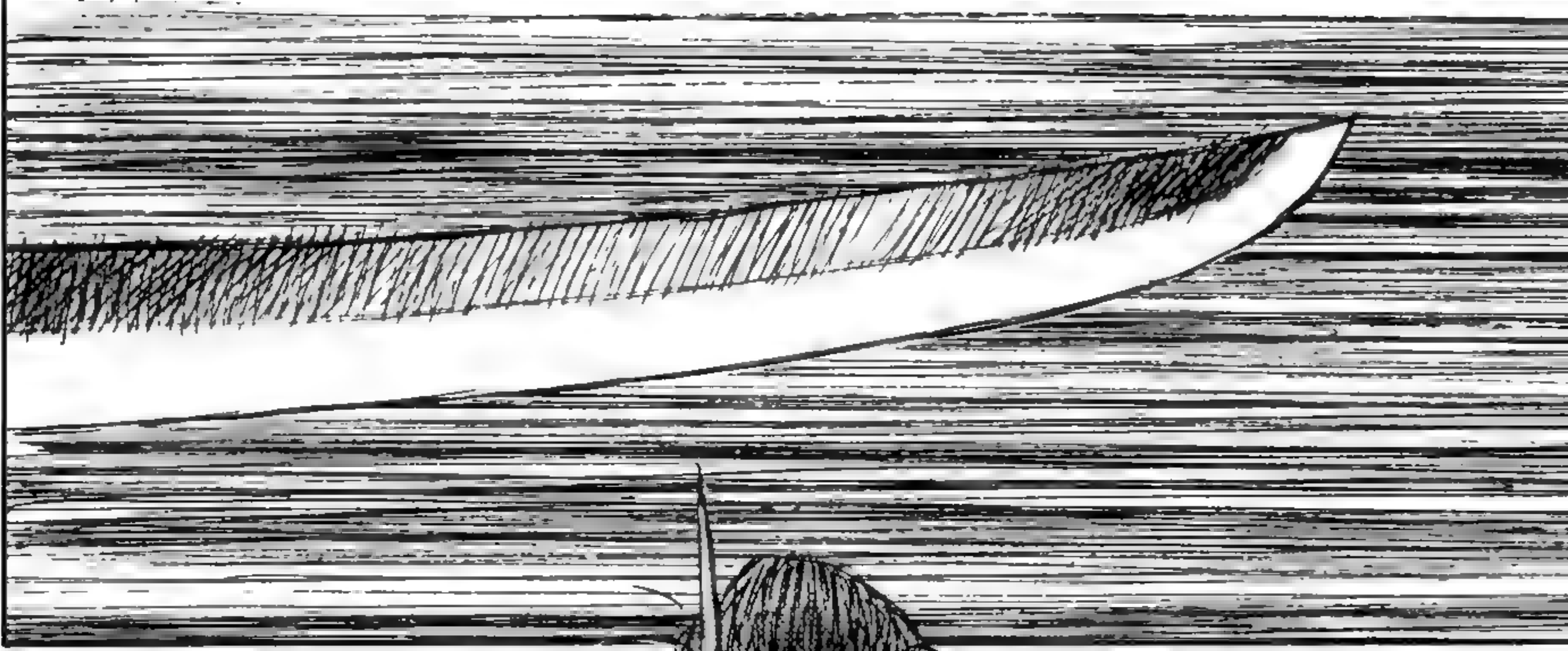


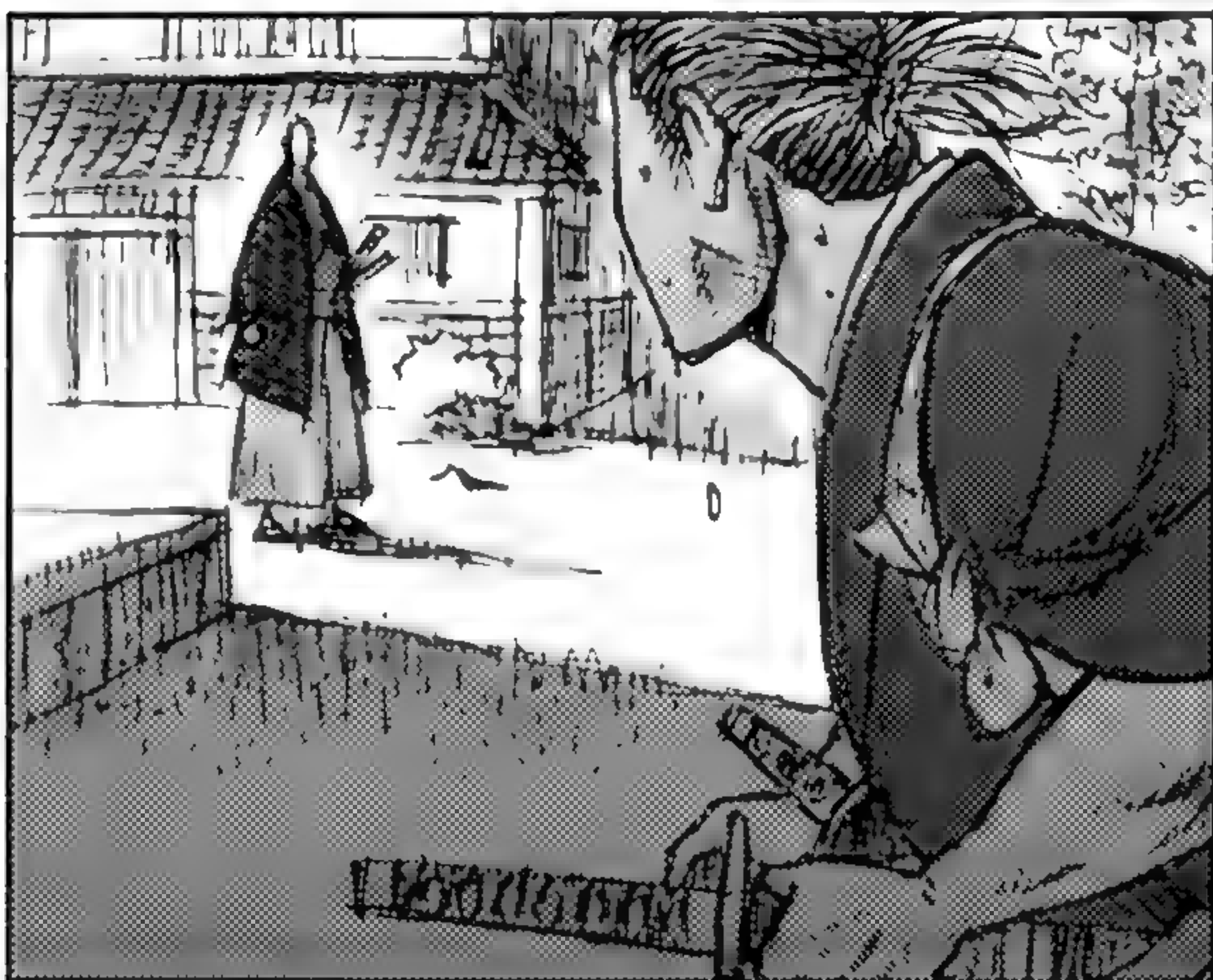


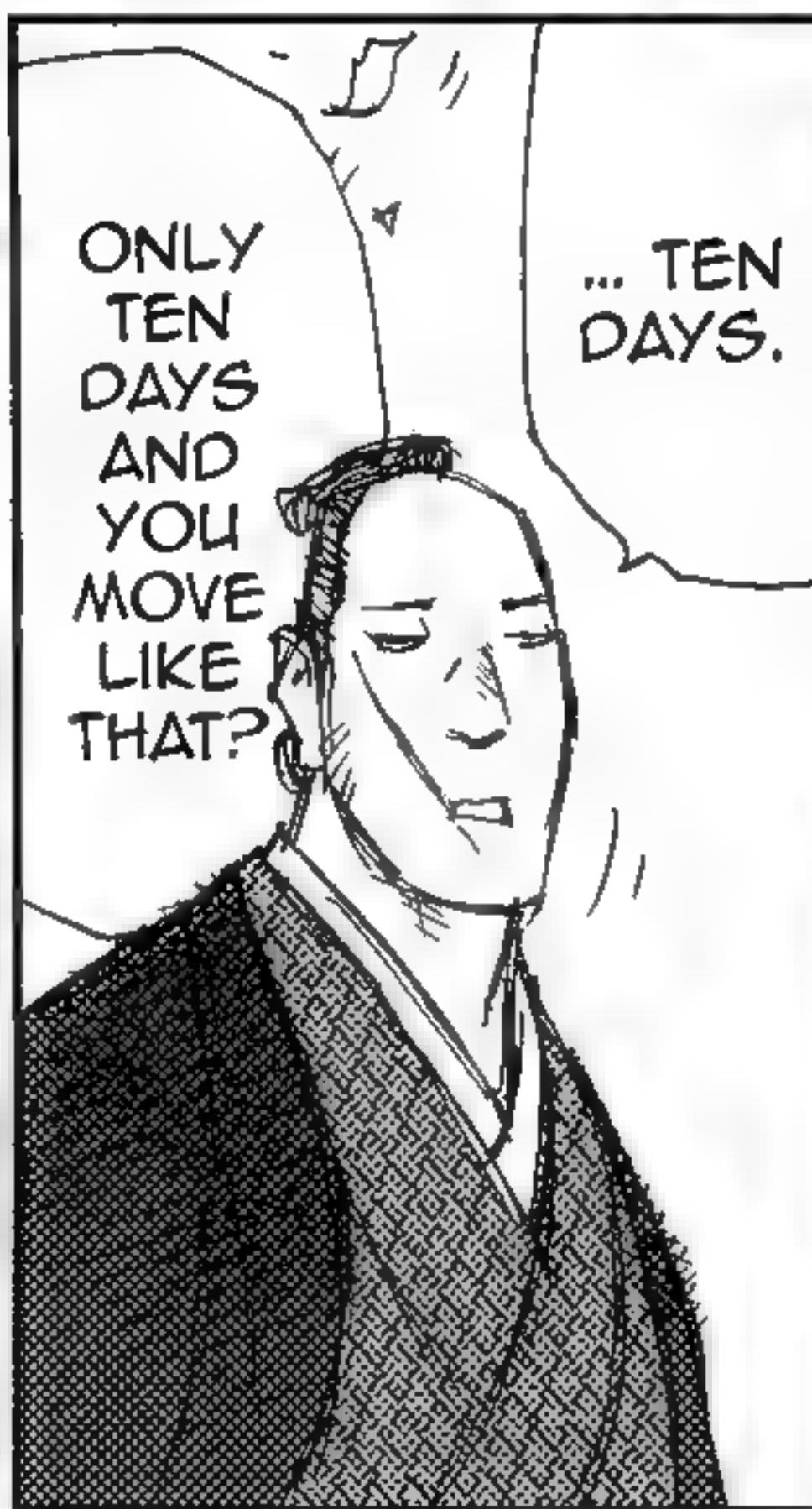


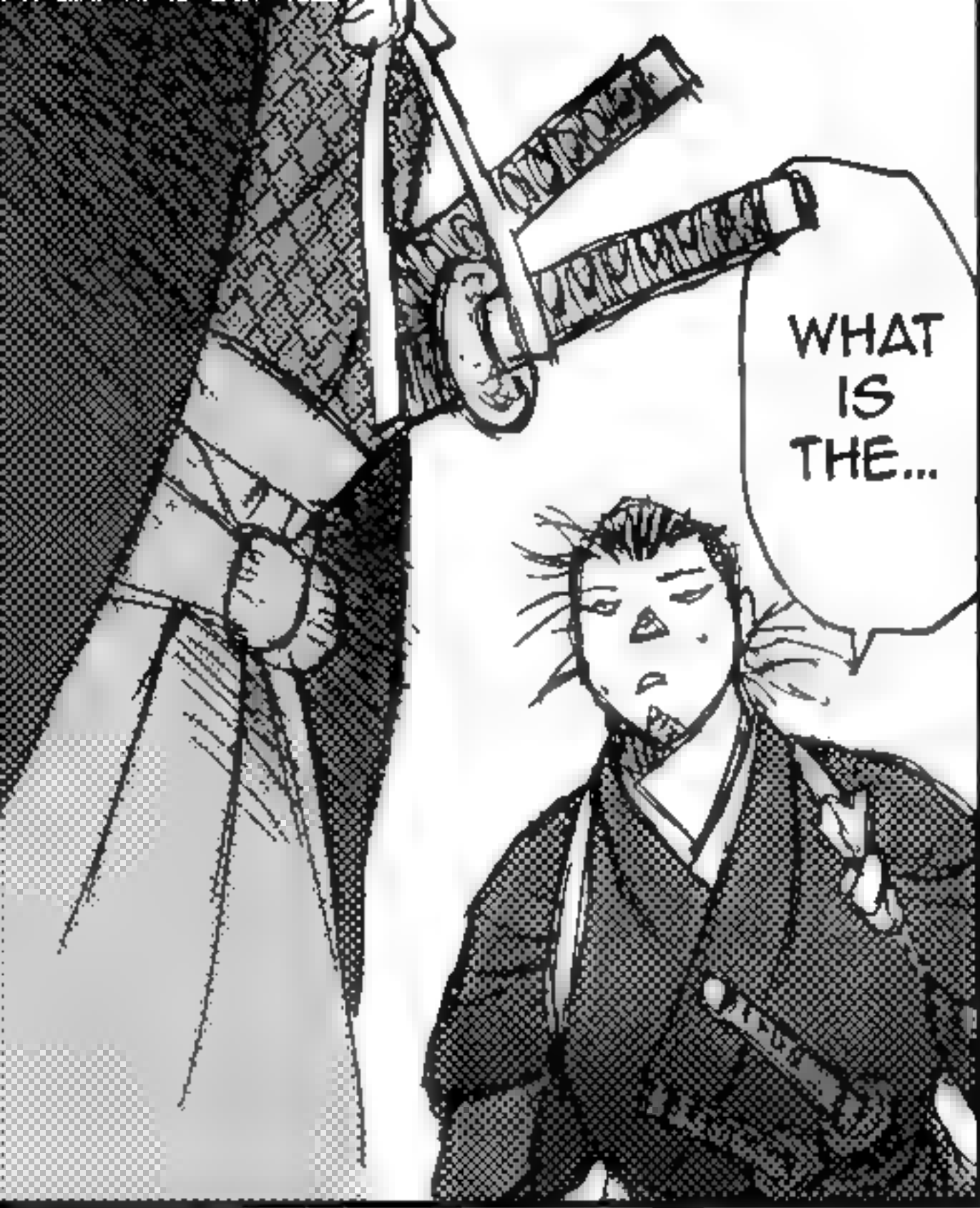








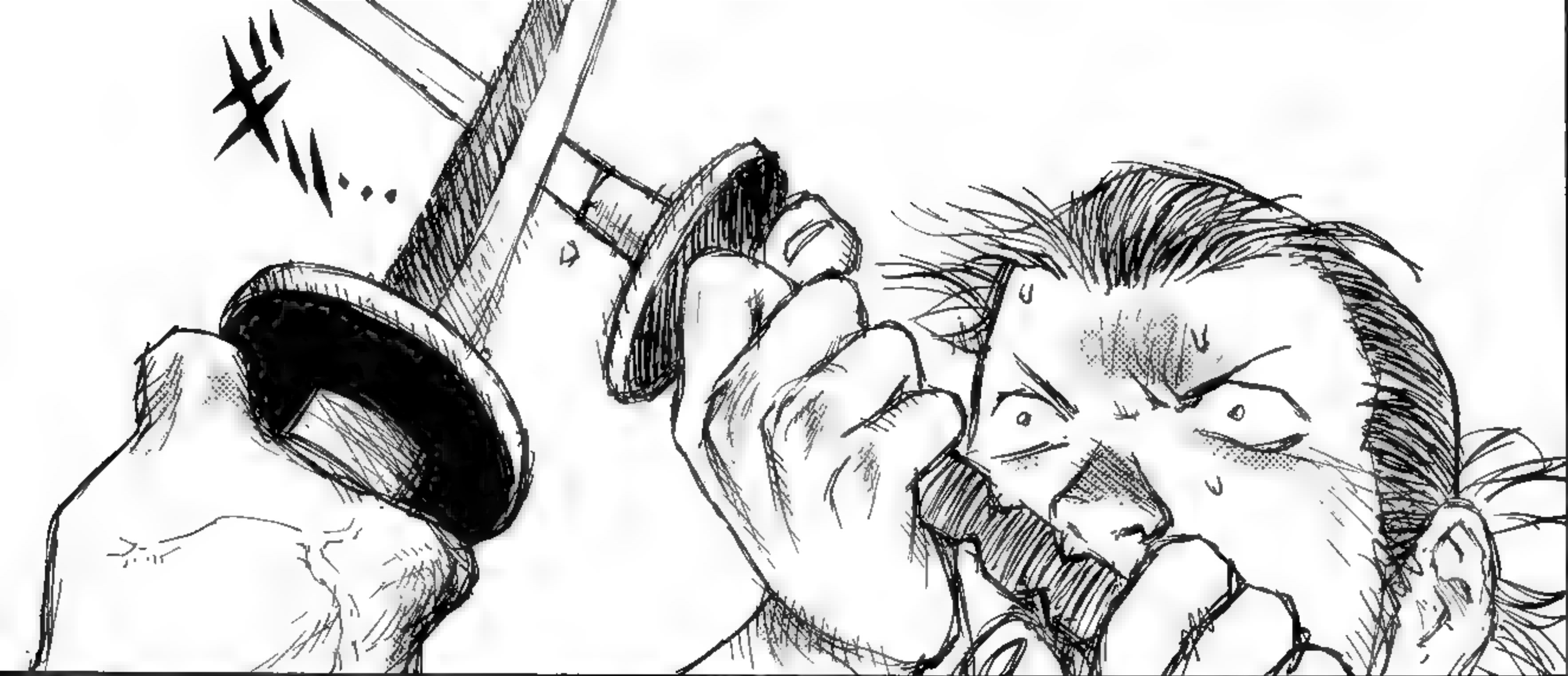




SFX: CLANG!



SFX:
Krk...



YOU KILLED
YOUR FRIEND
NOT TOO
LONG AGO,
YET YOU'RE
CALMLY
TRAINING...



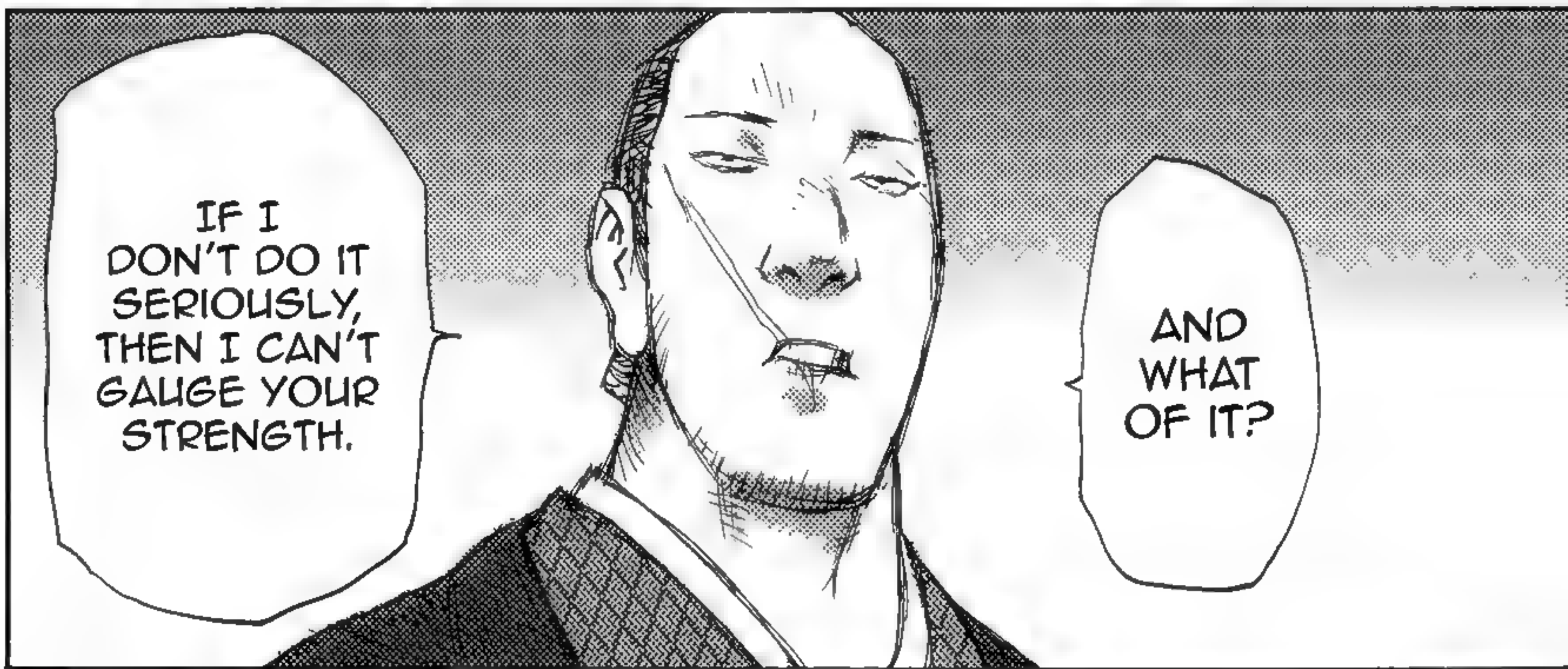
SFX:
Step





JUST NOW, IT...
LOOKED
LIKE YOU
WERE
TRYING TO
SERIOUSLY
CLUT ME...

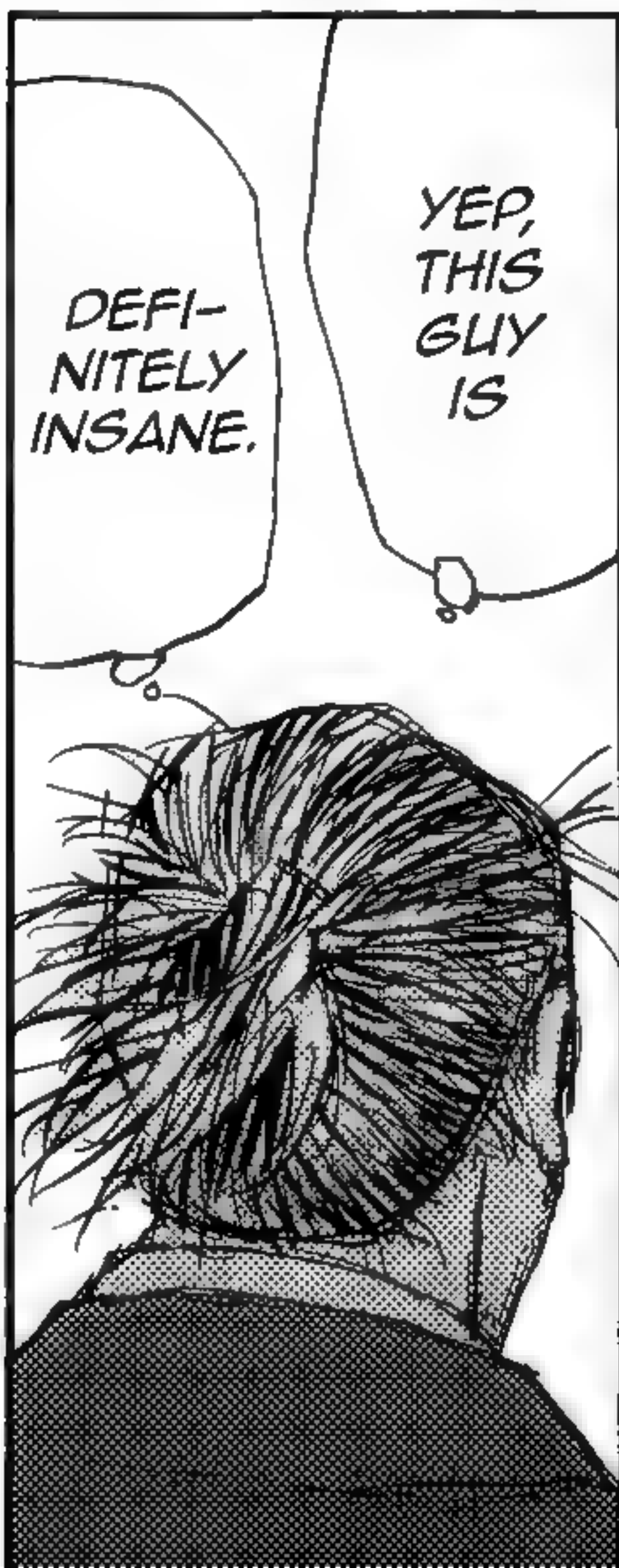
WELL...



IF I
DON'T DO IT
SERIOUSLY,
THEN I CAN'T
GAUGE YOUR
STRENGTH.

AND
WHAT
OF IT?

SFX:
Step



DEFI-
NITELY
INSANE.

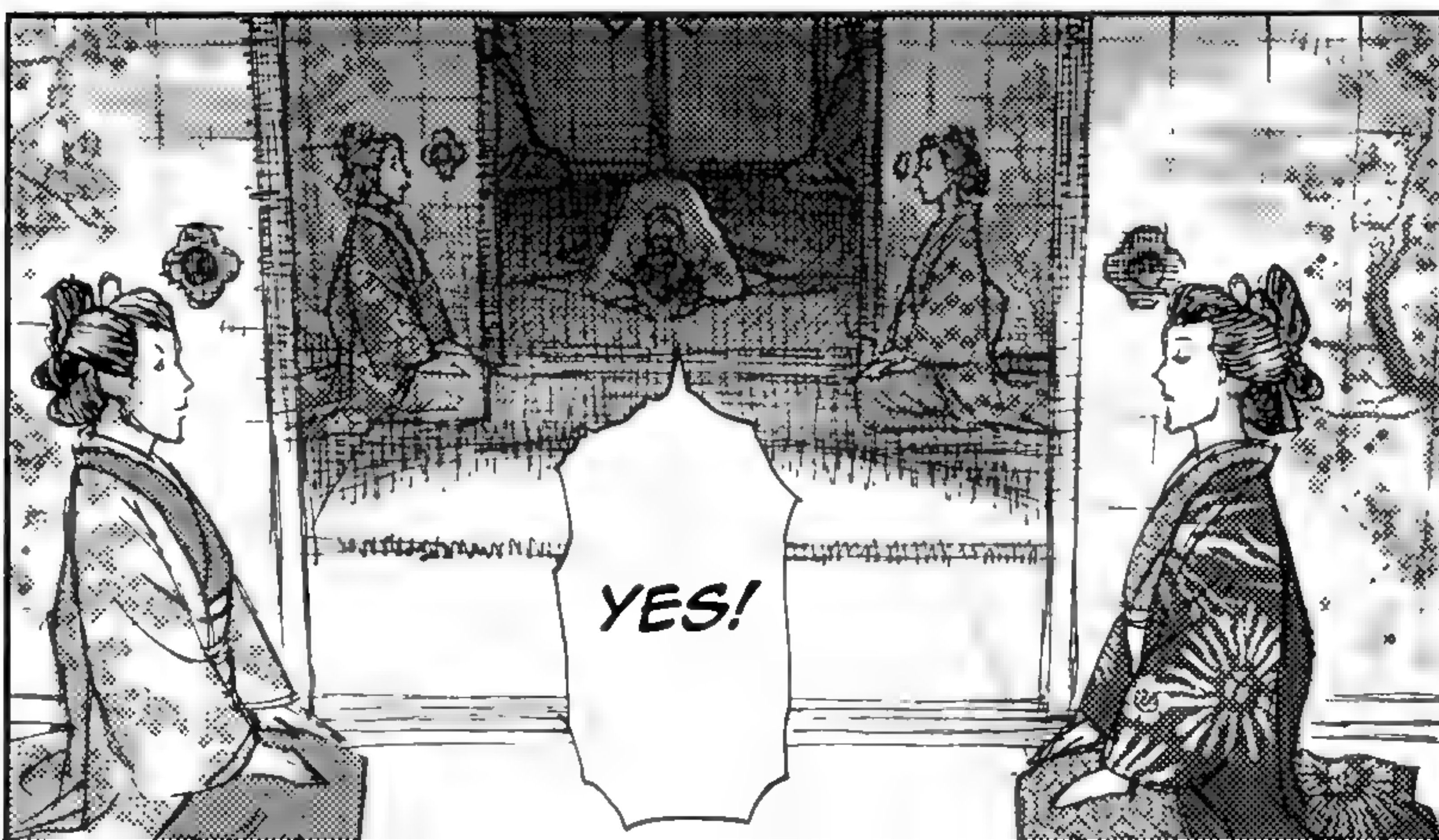
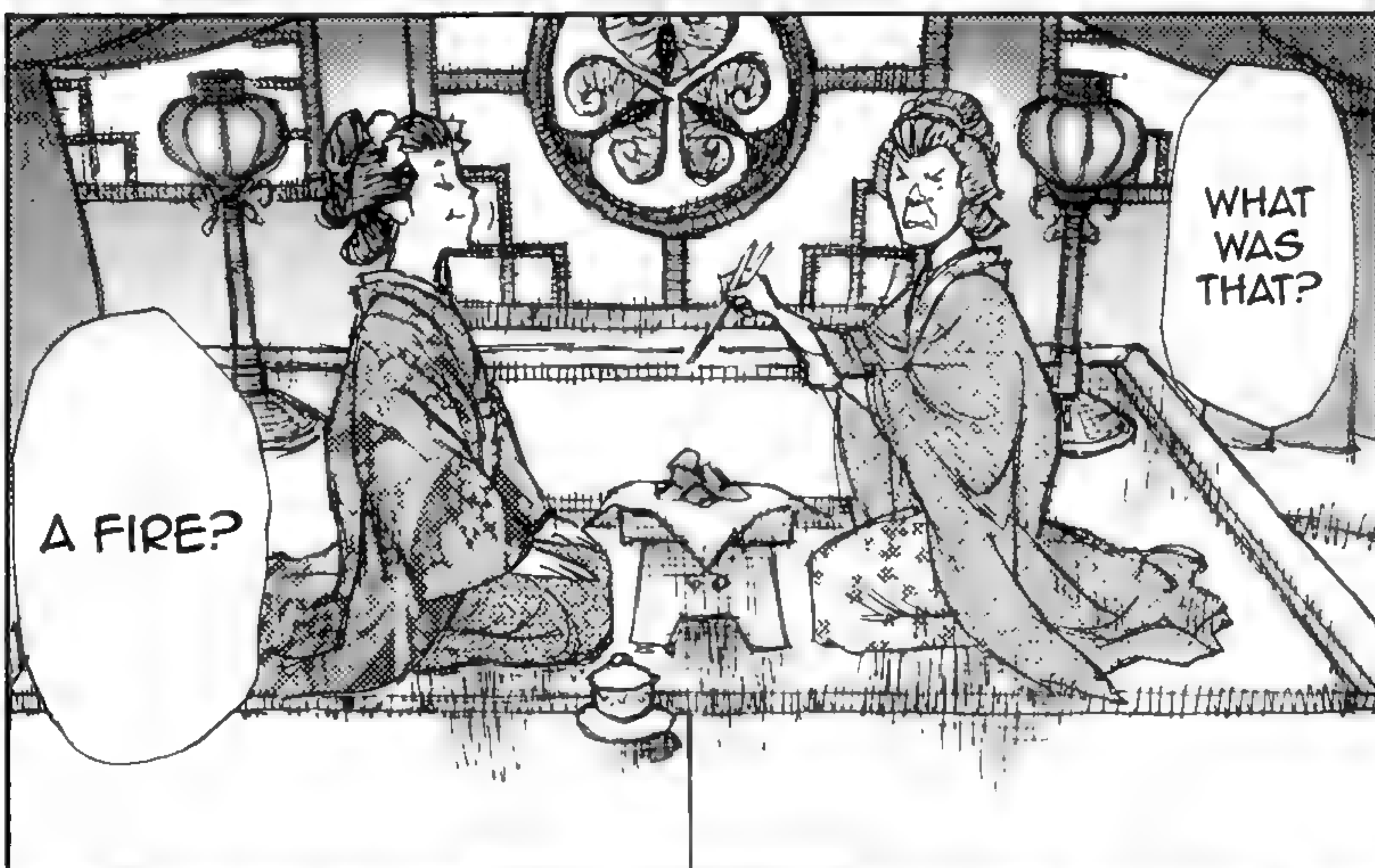
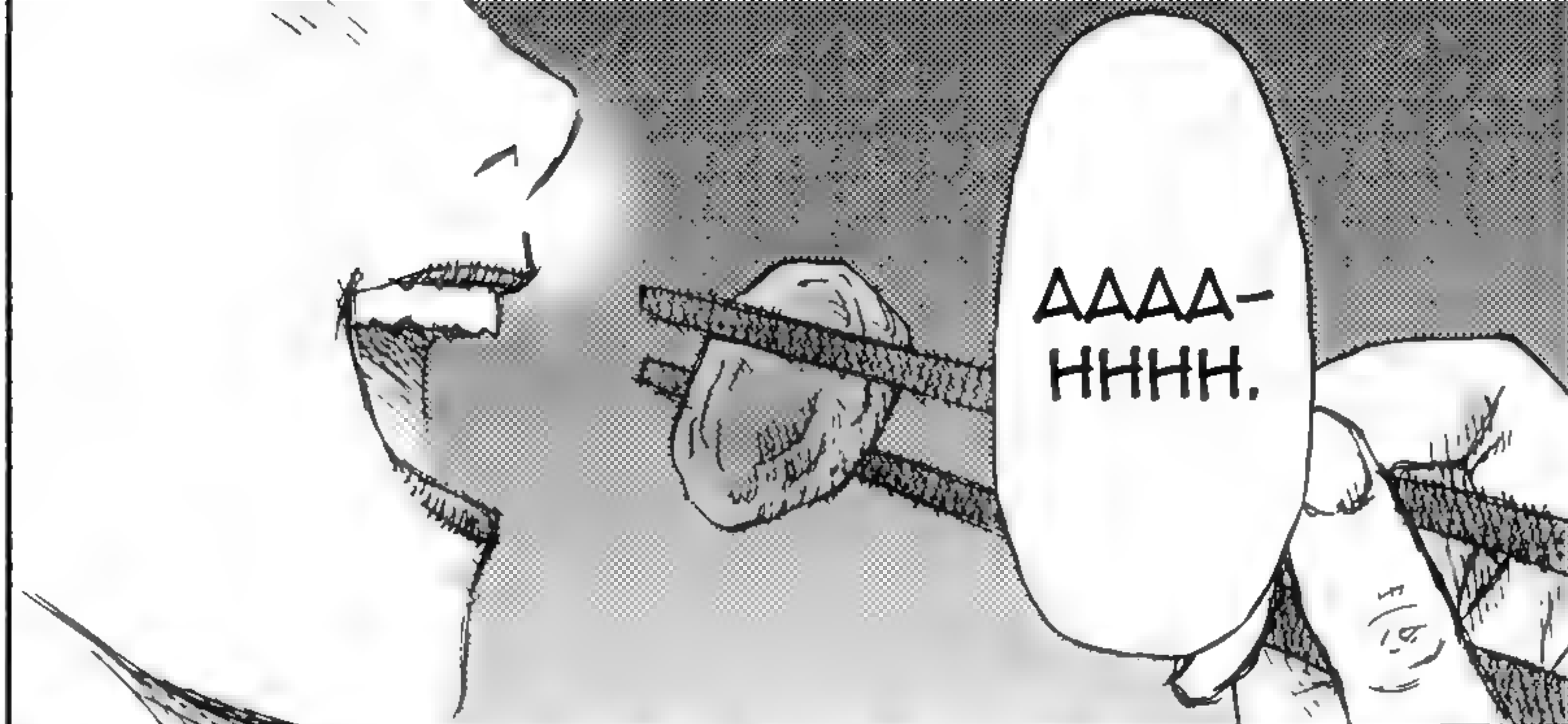
YEP,
THIS
GUY
IS



ARE
YOU AN
IDIOT?

CHAPTER 24: INTERNAL DISCORD





TO PREPARE
FOR AN
EMERGENCY,
WITH YOUR
PERMISSION,
I WOULD
STRONGLY
SUGGEST
THAT LADY
TENSHOUIN
PREPARE TO...
TO EVACUATE.

IT APPEARS
TO HAVE
ORIGINATED
FROM THE
MAIDS' LIVING
QUARTERS IN
THE OUTER
CITADEL OF
EDO CASTLE.
WHILE WE ARE
CURRENTLY
PUTTING ALL
OF OUR
EFFORTS INTO
EXTINGUISHING
THE FLAMES...

SFX:
Crackle
crackle

**SO
HOT!**

**WATER!
BRING
MORE
WATER!**

SFX:
Crash

SFX:
pop pop,
tremble
tremble

**WE MUST
TAKE ACTION.
OUR MILITARY
FORCE MUST
BE SHOWN
BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE!**

**FOR SOMEONE
TO COMMIT
ARSON IN EDO
CASTLE... THIS
IS NO LONGER
SIMPLY AN
ATTEMPT TO
PROVOKE US!**

**WE SHALL
DISPATCH
TROOPS TO
THE CITY
DEFENCE
FORCE IN
SHOUNAI!**

**FIRST, WE MUST
SUBJUGATE THE
SAMURAI THAT
ARE TAKING UP
RESIDENCE WITH
THE SATSUMA,
LORD OGURI!**

**PLUS, THEY'VE
SET FIRE TO
THE OUTER
CITADEL... THE
SATSUMA ARE
NO LONGER
SANE.**

**HERE I
THOUGHT THE
GOYOUTOU
WERE DYING
DOWN, AND
NOW THEY'RE
FIRING GUNS
AT THE
MILITARY...**

ALRIGHT!

**FROM
HERE ON
OUT THERE'S
NO GOING
BACK!**



I'VE HEARD
YOU'RE
COOKING UP
SOME SORT
OF SCHEME
IN A PLACE
WE'RE NOT
WATCHING?



BY THE
WAY, LORD
KATSU.



I WONDER
IF THAT'S
TRUE.

EHP?



THERE'S
NO POINT
IN TROU-
BLING
THE BUSY
PEOPLE
HERE
WITH
THAT...

IT'S
SIMPLY A
VARIETY OF
MISCEL-
LANEOUS
AFFAIRS,



EHP?

UM...
WELL...



HEY,
HOLD ON,
WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING...?



HAS BEEN
SECRETLY
TALKING AND
COLLUDING
WITH MEMBERS
OF THE
CHOUSHUU
AND THE
SATSUMA.

THERE ARE
RUMOURS THAT
A VASSAL OF
THE SHOGLU-
NATE, WANTING
TO PROTECT
HIMSELF
AND BEING
COERCED
WITH
MONEY...



WE WILL
THOROUGHLY
INVESTIGATE
THIS AND
CATCH THEIR
TAILS!

LET US
PREPARE THE
SUBJUGATION
FORCE AND
INVESTIGATE
THE TRAITOR
AT THE SAME
TIME.



THERE'S NO
DOUBT THAT
THE CRIMINAL
WAS ASSISTED
BY SOMEONE!

THAT'S TRUE...
THIS CASE OF
ARSON WAS
TOO WELL-
PREPARED!



SFX:
staaaare
staaaare

UM...

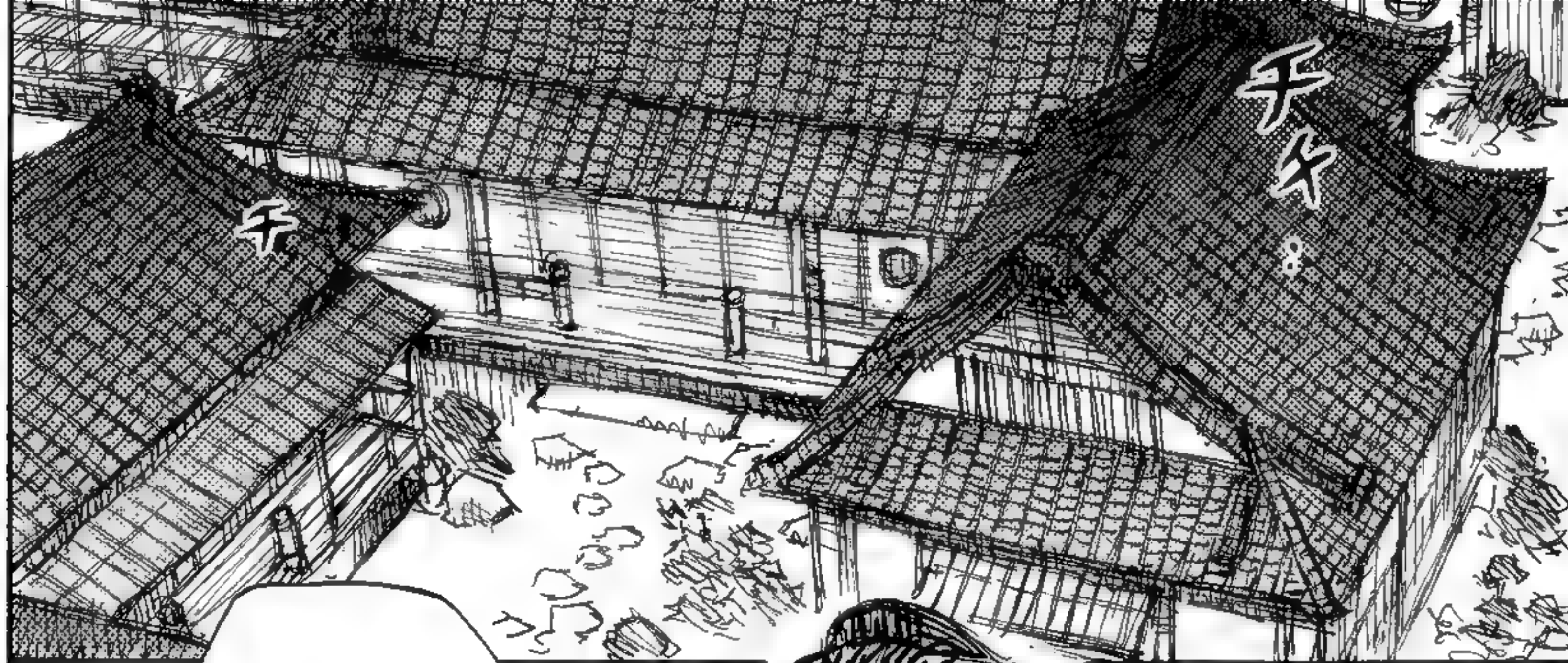
LORD
KATSU!?

IS THAT
FINE WITH
YOU!?



LOOKS LIKE
THE SATSUMA
AREN'T THE
ONLY ONES
THAT ARE
INSANE.

I'VE HAD
ENOUGH
OF THESE
GUYS...



SFX:
tweet
tweet





WE'RE
GOING
TO TRY
GATHERING
SOME
FRESH
RECRUITS.

WELL, SEE...
THIS TIME
I'M SETTING
UP THE NEW
POST FOR THE
SHINSENGUMI
HERE IN EDO.



WHEN
DID YOU
ARRIVE IN
EDO?

HUH? MR
KONDOLI,



.....

THEREFORE,
TO RAISE
FUNDS,

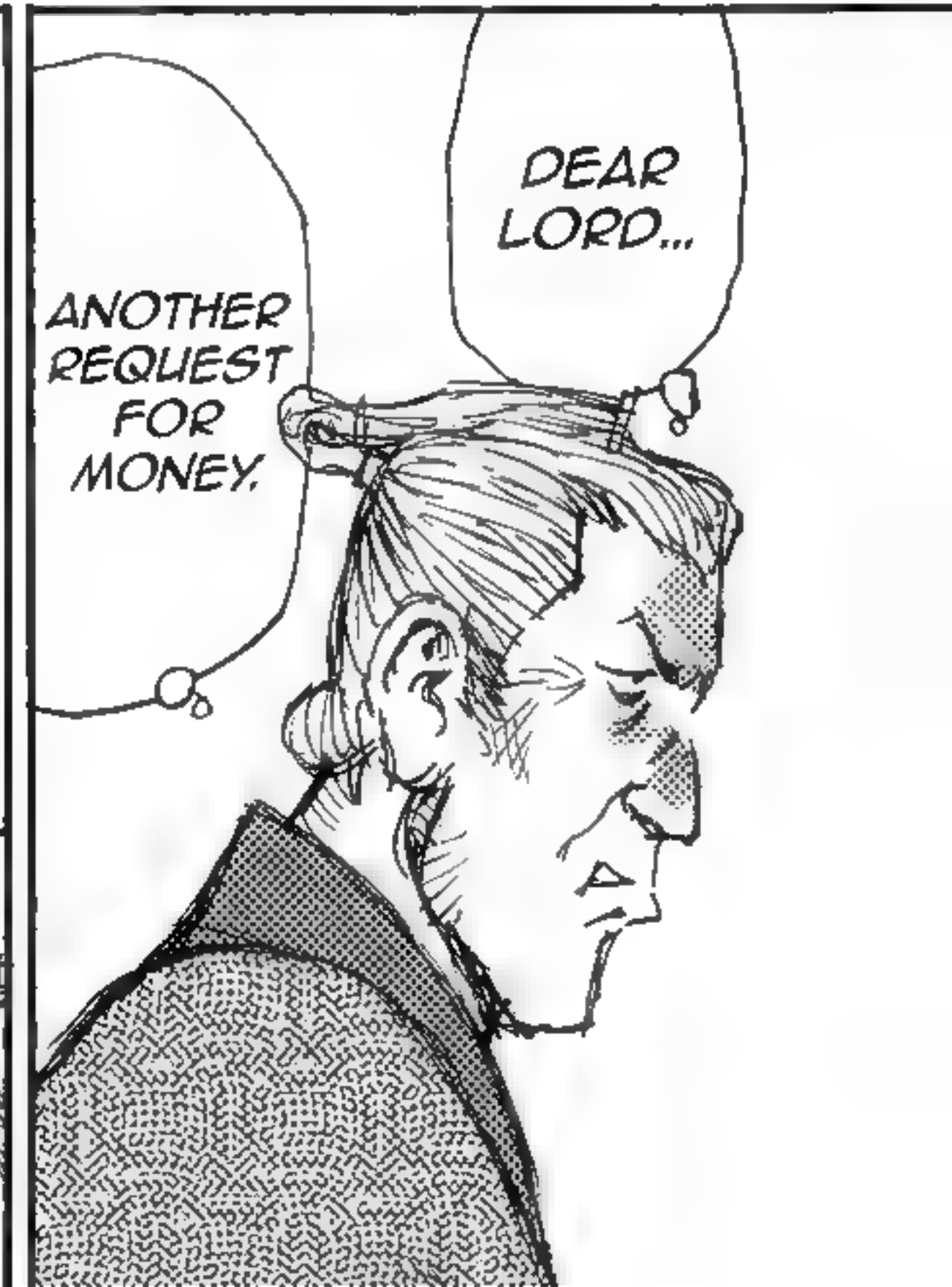
I'M GOING
AROUND AND
DEPENDING ON
THE GOOD
WILL OF
OTHERS.

TN:
*Kakujirou
= Sakuma
Shouzan
and his
mistress
Ochou's
child.
Shouzan's
legal wife,
Ojun, was
Katsu
Kaishu's
little sister,
and
therefore
being
Kakujirou's
uncle.



COME TO
THINK OF IT,
HOW IS YOUR
NEPHEW
KAKUJIROU
DOING, IS
HE WELL?

WELL, I'D
LOVE TO
CONTRIBUTE,
I TRULY DO,
BUT I'M
IN DIRE
STRAITS
MYSELF...



ANOTHER
REQUEST
FOR
MONEY.

DEAR
LORD...

TN: Kakujirou was a part of the Shinsengumi



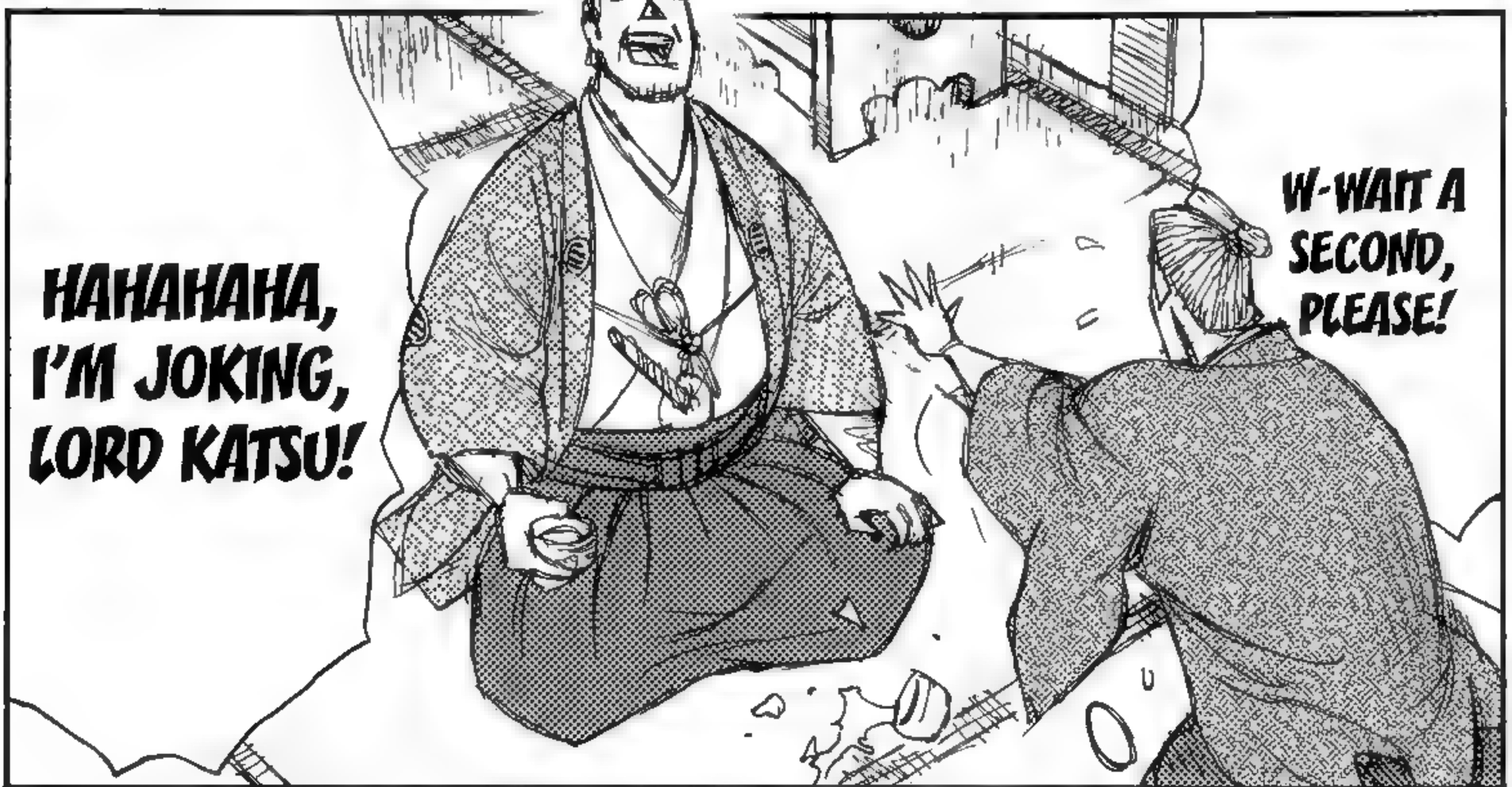
I'VE HEARD THAT KAKUJIROU HAS BEEN HIDING IN EDO AND I'M ABOUT TO GO LOOKING FOR HIM NOW.



THE SHINSENGUMI HAVE DECIDED THAT ANY FUGITIVES THAT ARE FOUND ARE TO BE IMMEDIATELY EXECUTED.

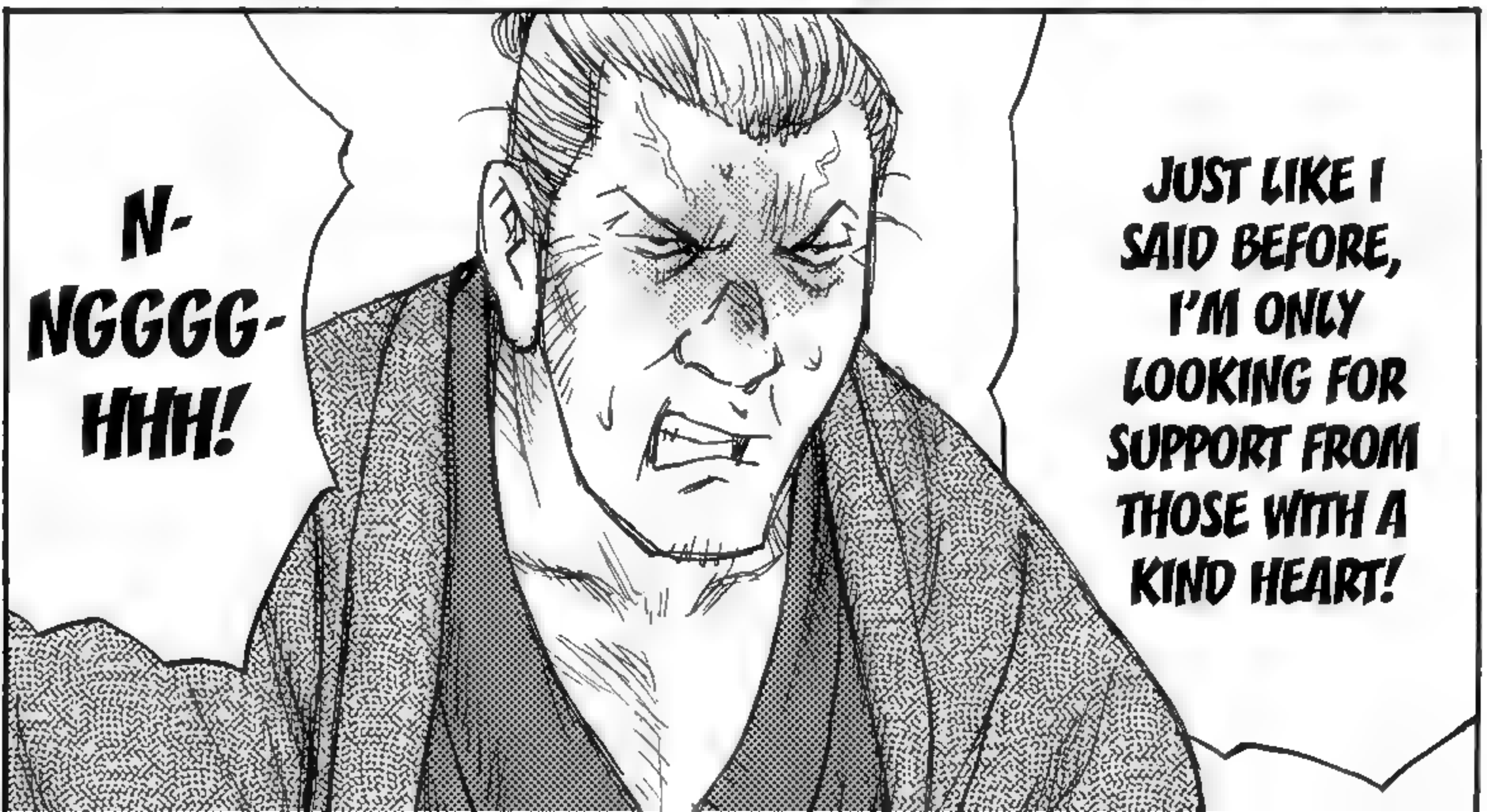


HUH?



HAHAHAHA, I'M JOKING, LORD KATSU!

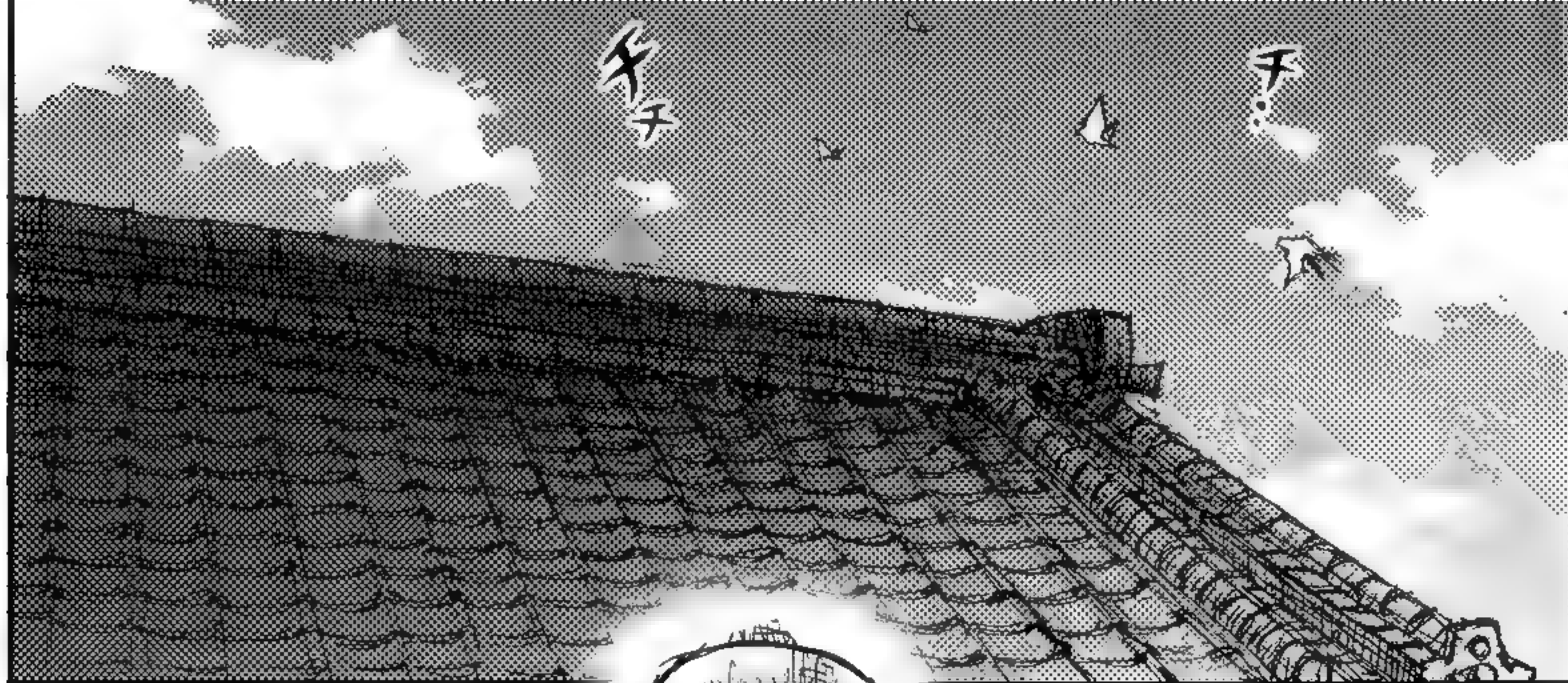
W-WAIT A SECOND, PLEASE!



N-NGGGG-HHH!

JUST LIKE I SAID BEFORE, I'M ONLY LOOKING FOR SUPPORT FROM THOSE WITH A KIND HEART!

SFX:
tweet
tweet



**HE SAYS TO ME
THAT THEY WEREN'T
AIMING FOR HIS
HEAD, BUT WERE
AIMING FOR THE
PETITION IN HIS
POCKET!**

**KIYOKAWA
STANDS BY MY
PILLOW AND
TORTURES ME
EVERY NIGHT!**



TN: * Kiyokawa
Hachirou =
A warrior who
was one of the
instigators of
the Meiji
Restoration.
After he was
assassinated
by shogunate
supporters,
his head
was given to
Yamaoka
Tesshu and
hidden.

SFX:
bang
bang

**IF THAT HAD
BEEN THE
CASE, I WOULD
NOT SHOW
SUCH
DISGRACEFUL
BEHAVIOUR!**

**IF ONLY
HE HAD
FOCUSED ON
THE DUEL WITH
ASARI-SENSEI
BACK THEN!**



TN: * Asari
Matashichirou
= Swordsman
One story is
that Yamaoka
Tesshu, who
was taking
down various
dojos, was
made a
disciple of
Asari after
he was
defeated.



TN:
Apparently
the
Shinsen-
gumi were
quite low
on funds,
thus we
have
Kondo here
begging for
funds and
lamenting
his own
lack of
wealth.



SFX:
quiver
quiver



SFX:
Boof!

**LORD
KATSUU!
LORD KATSU
LORD KATSU
LORD
KATSUU!**

SFX:
shot
stretch

**GROSS, THAT'S
DISGUSTING!**

**IS THERE
ANYTHING
ELSE?!**

**IT IS THE
INTENTION OF
YAMAOKA
TETSUTAROU
AND I TO WORK
WHOLEHEARTEDLY
FOR LORD KATSU
AND THE GOV-
ERNMENT!**

SFX:
tweet
tweet

**GET THIS
GUY AWAY
FROM ME!**

**LORD
KATSUU!**

**S-
SOME-
ONE!**



SFX:
tweet
tweet



IT IS FOR THE
MATTER OF THE
REPLACEMENT
SOLDIERS
FOR THE ONE
STRIKE, ONE
KILL SQUAD...

.....



UMMMM...

WHY ARE
YOU HERE
AGAIN?



I KNOW,
YES YES! YES,
THAT'S
RIGHT!

OOOH! OH!



SOL-
DIERS?

REPLACE-
MENT...



EVERYTHING
WILL BE READY
SOON, SO JUST
WAIT A LITTLE
BIT MORE,
ALRIGHT!?



THIS IS
SECRETIVE
BUSINESS,
AND IT'S
TAKEN A BIT
OF TIME,
BUT...

I'VE
ORDERED...
MY SUBOR-
DINATES TO
MAKE THE
NECESSARY
PREPARA-
TIONS!



HMM?

I ALSO
HAVE A
REPORT.



YES, IT'LL BE
DONE SOON, SO
DON'T WORRY!

I SEE...
THEN I
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
EFFORTS.

SFX:
cough
cough



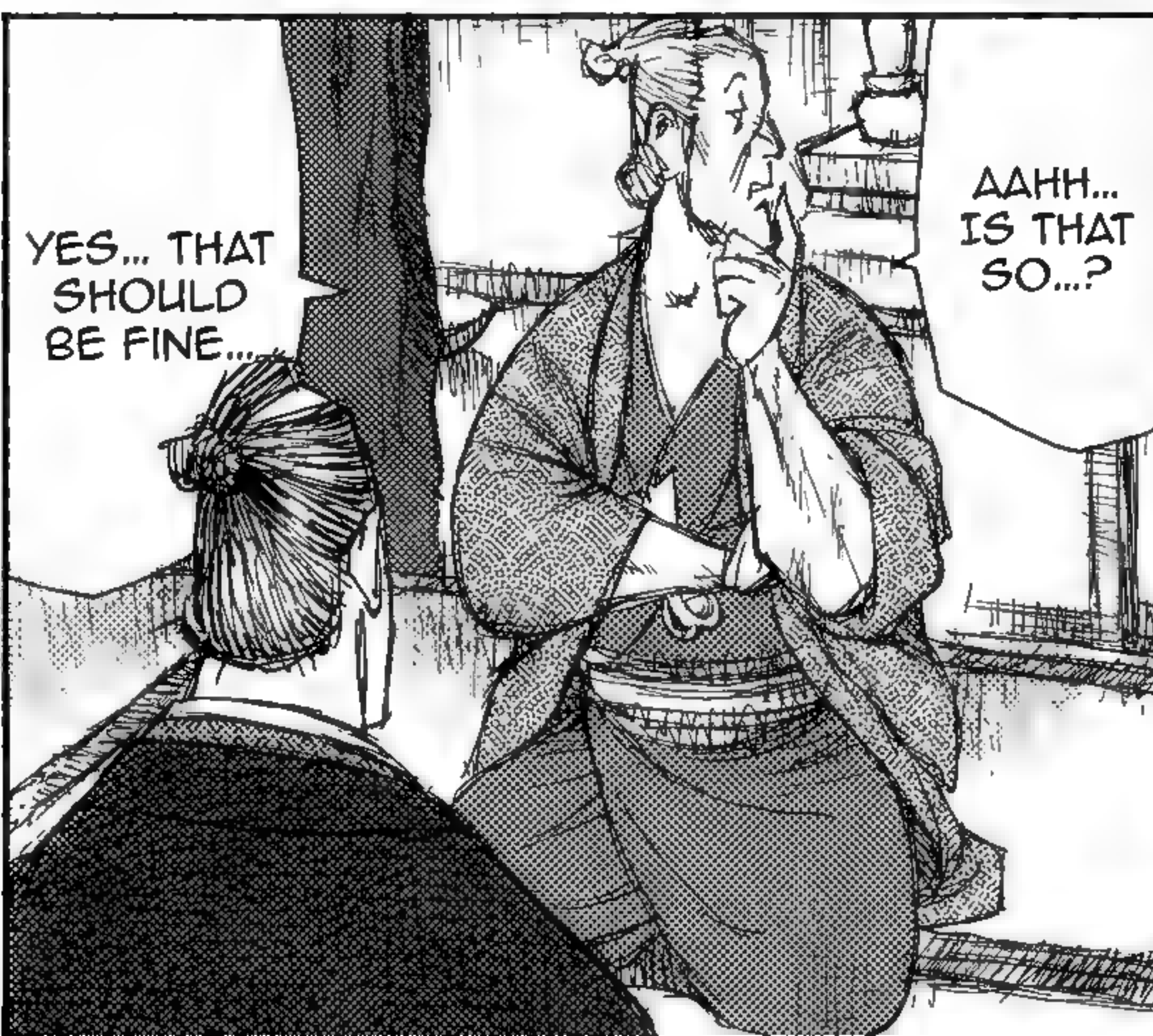
I WANTED
TO DO THIS
AFTER WE
RECEIVED MORE
SOLDIERS,
HOWEVER THAT
IS NO LONGER
POSSIBLE.

WE ARE
PLANNING A
LARGE-SCALE
ASSAULT
AGAINST THE
SATSUMA
TOMORROW
EVENING.



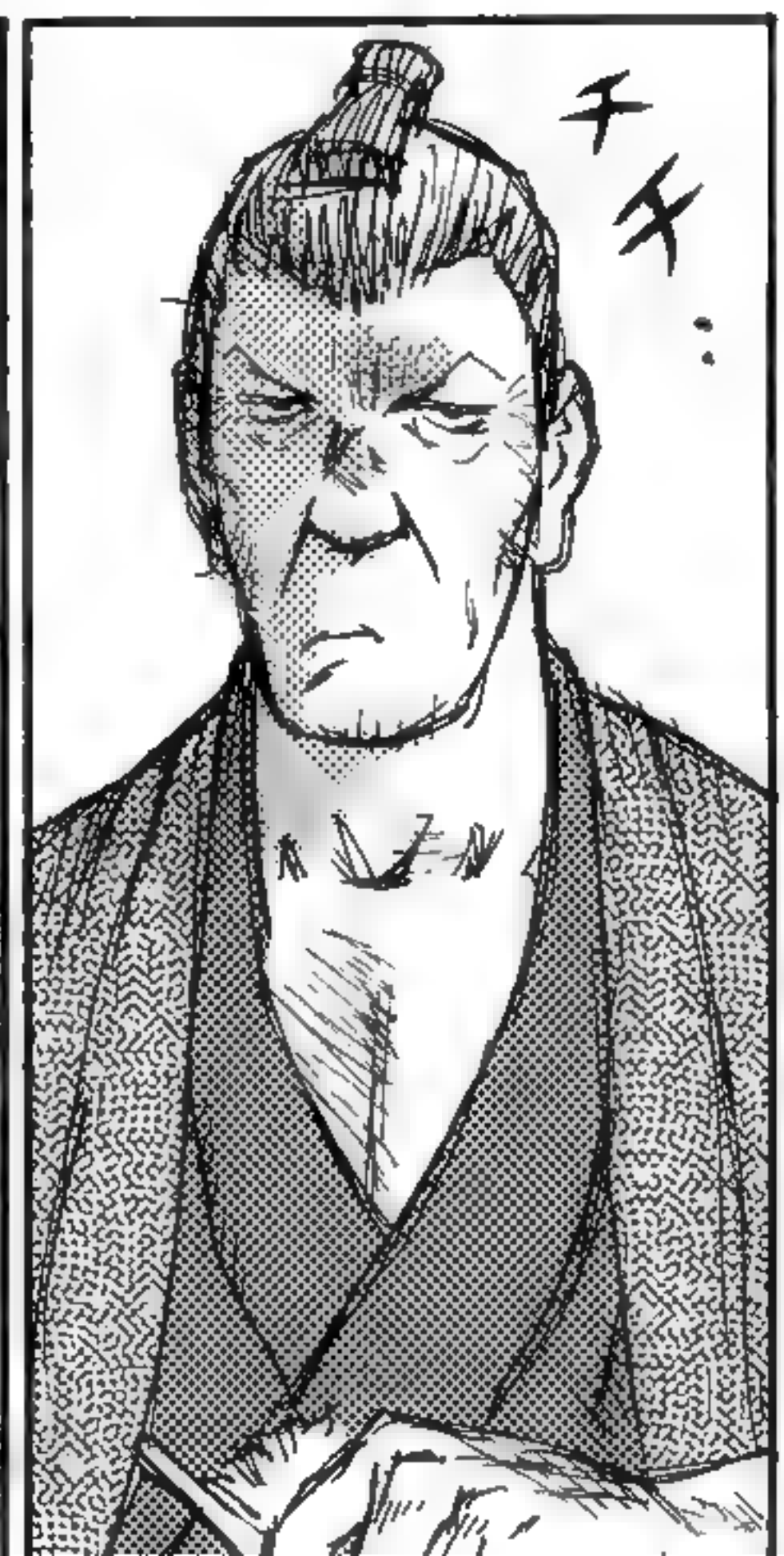
WE UNDERSTAND
THAT WE WILL
NOT COME OUT
OF IT WITHOUT
SEVERE CON-
SEQUENCES.

WHILE WE
ARE AT A
DISADVANTAGE
DUE TO THE
LOW NUMBERS
OF THE ONE
STRIKE, ONE
KILL SQUAD,



YES... THAT
SHOULD
BE FINE...

AAHH...
IS THAT
SO...?



SFX:
tweet
tweet



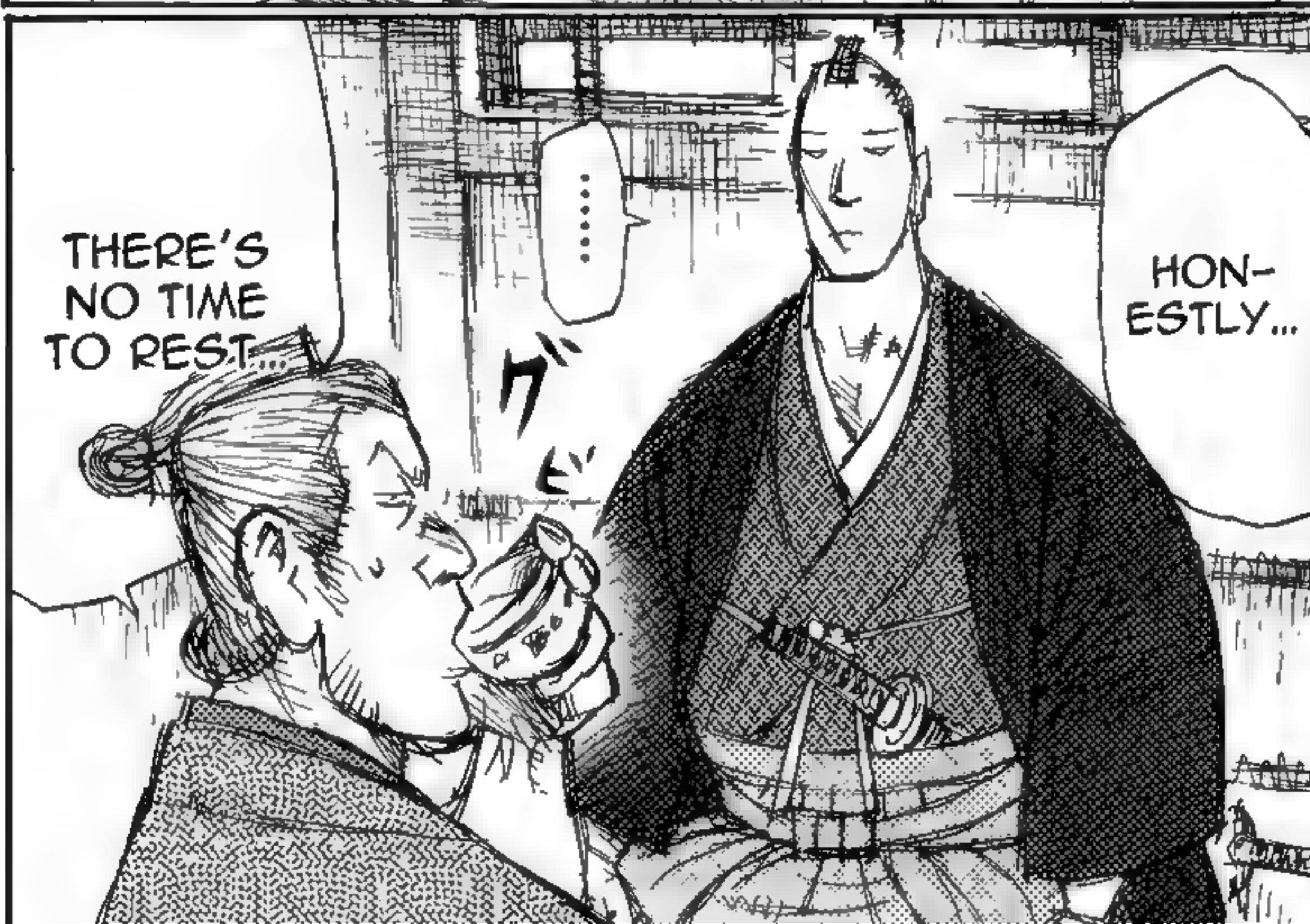
SFX:
tweet
tweet

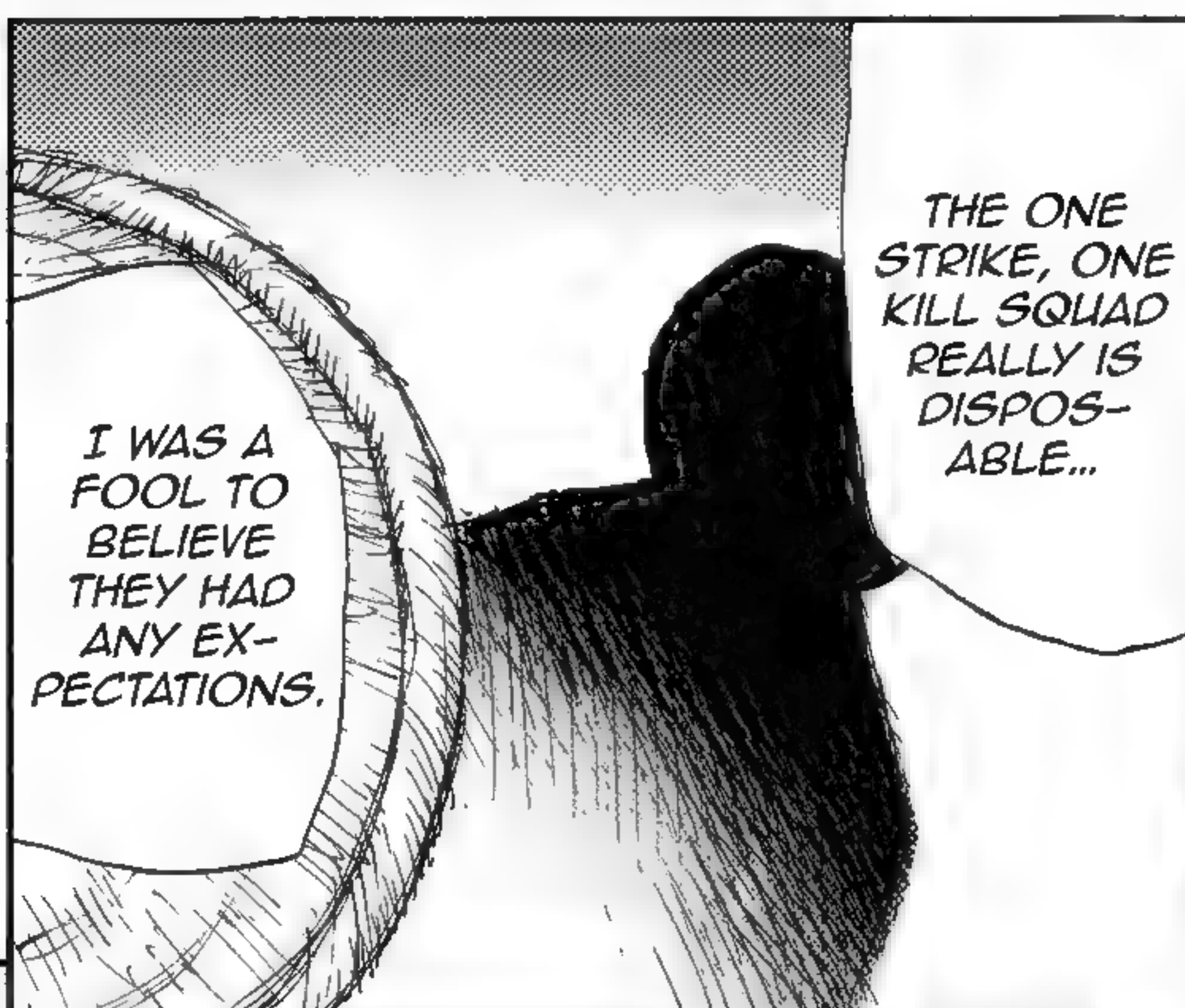


TN:
Referring
to Charles
Chanoine,
the com-
mander of
the First
French
Military
Mission to
Japan.



SFX:
drink







SFX:
tweet
tweet
tweet

THEY
AGAIN.

Do

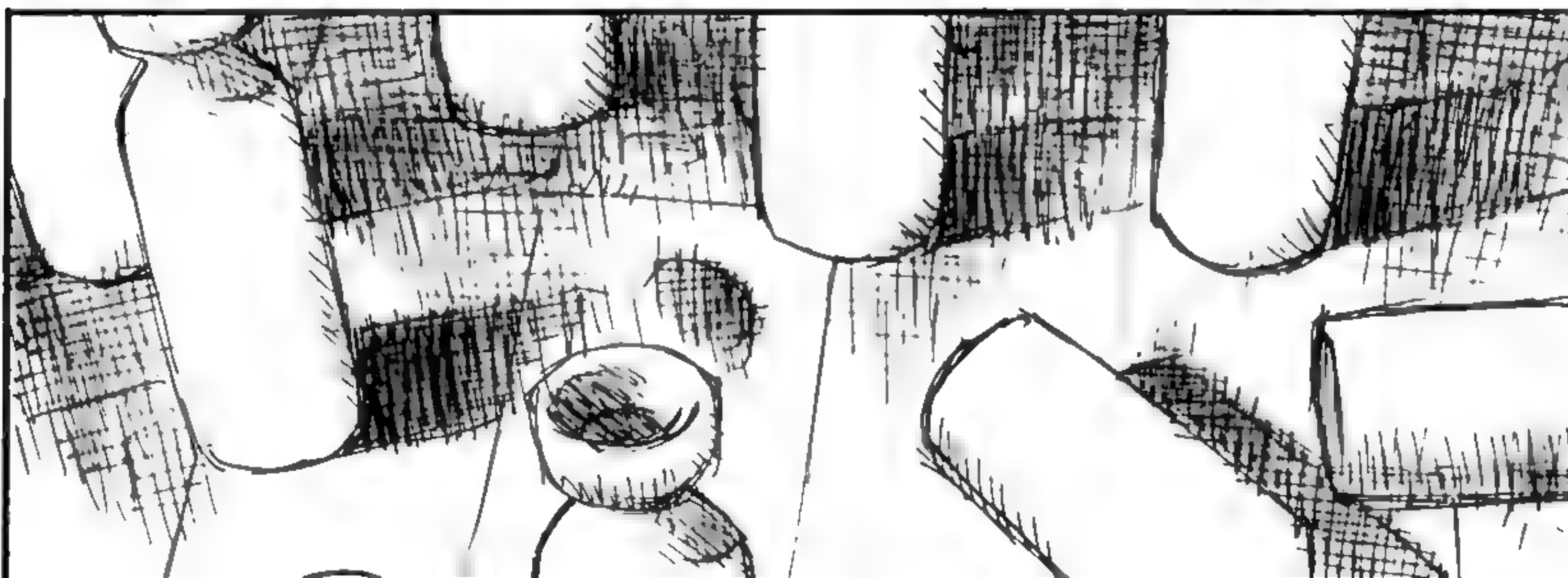
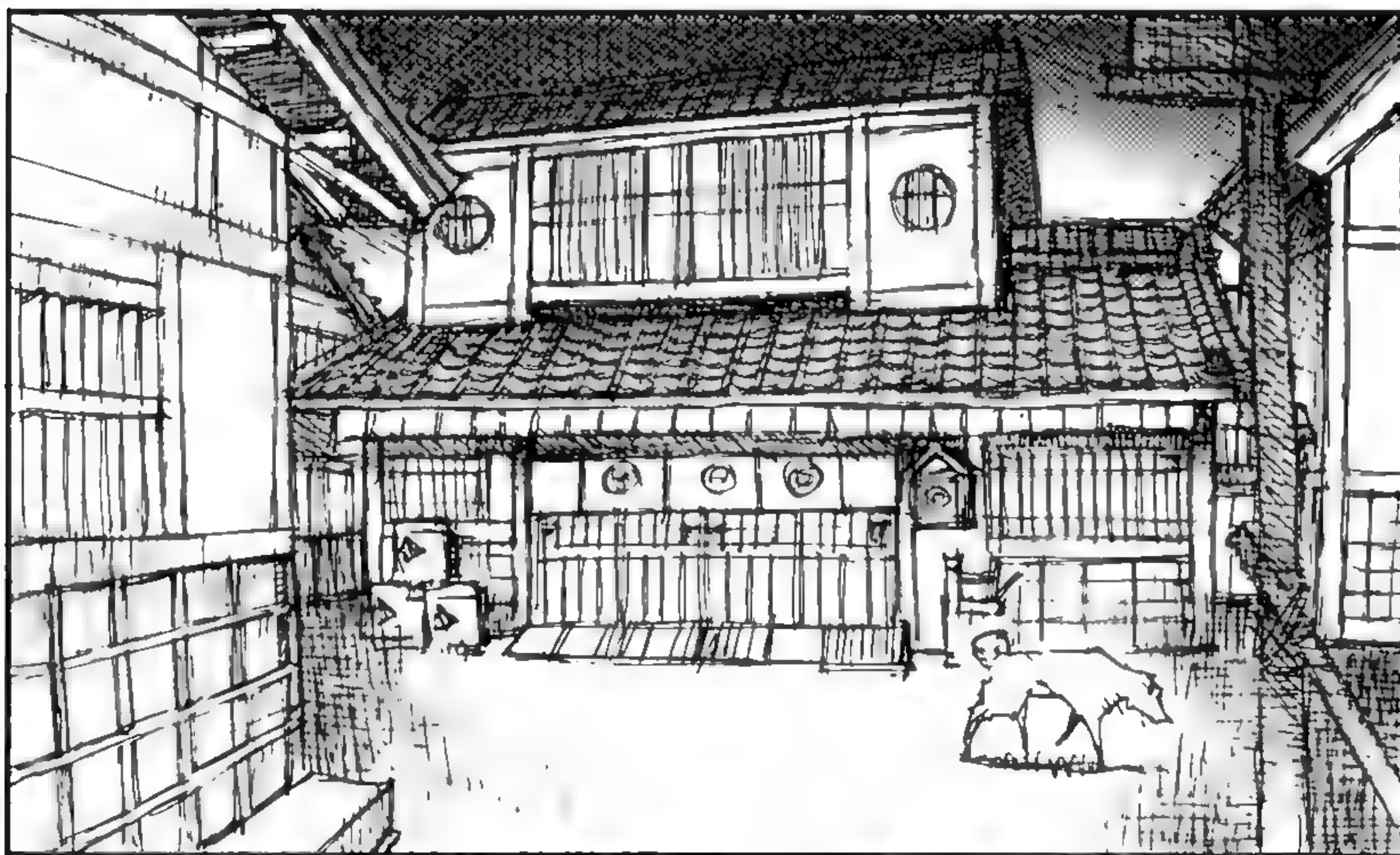
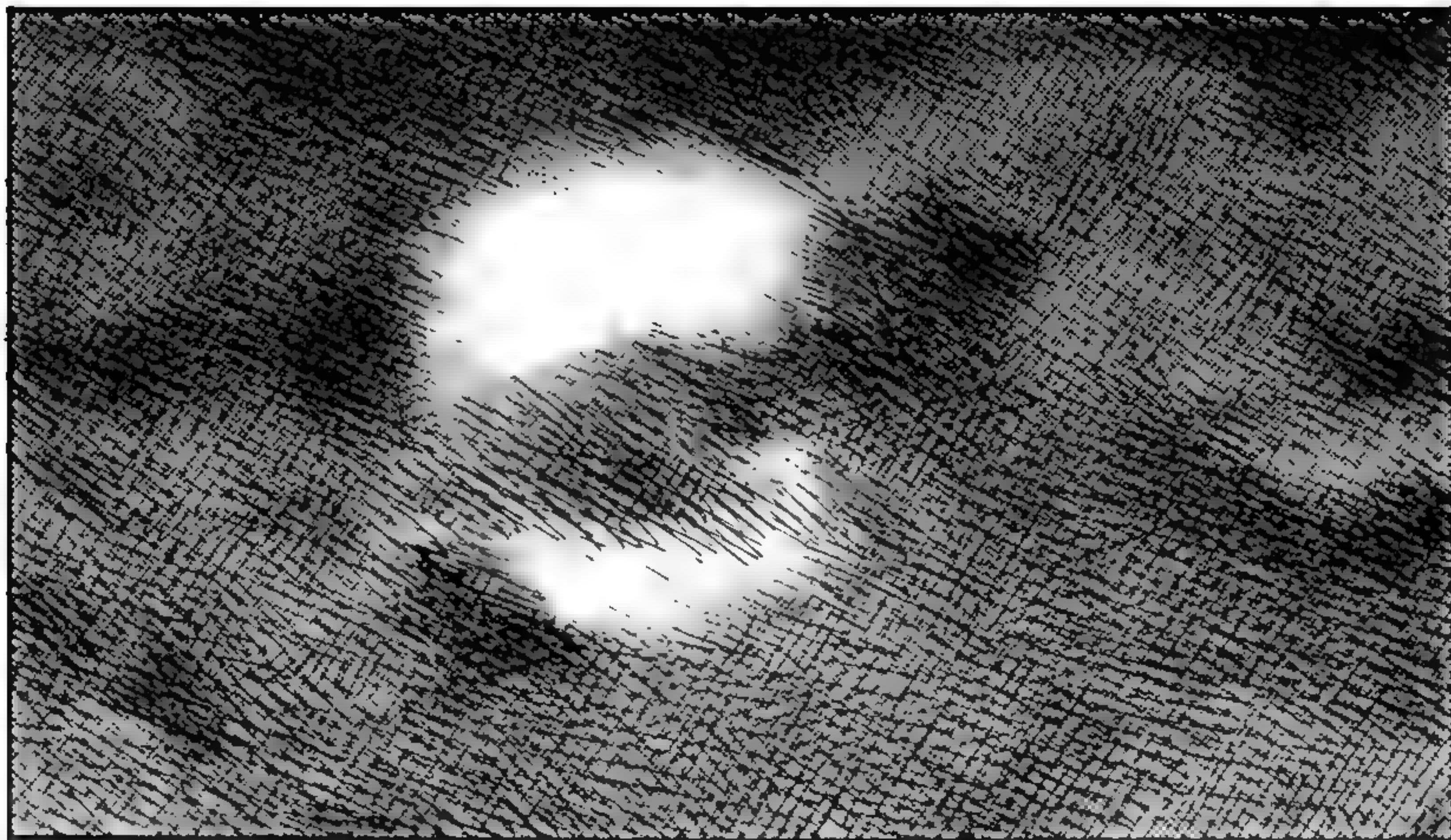
7
7
:

7

SFX:
step

DON'T
YOU DARE
LOOK DOWN
ON ME.

7
7
7





SFX:
burp

I'M STILL
DRINKING
HERE...

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

SFX:
clack

WOULD
YOU BE
ABLE TO
SETTLE
YOUR
BILL
FIRST?

T-
THEN,

I-I
WOULD
NEVER
SUGGEST
SUCH A
THING!

OR WHAT,
ARE YOU
GOING TO
KICK ME OUT
OF HERE BY
FORCE?

SFX:
clatter



SFX:
duff





IF IT
ISN'T
LORD
KAIEDA.

WELL,
WELL.



T-THEN,
PLEASE
TAKE
YOUR
TIME.



THAT
WAS THE
BOAT FARE
TO CROSS
THE SANZU
RIVER.

I'M NOT
HERE TO
TREAT YOU
TO SAKE.



SO YOU'VE
COME TO
KILL ME.



HMM?



THAT'S
RIGHT.



SFX:
Duf

SFX:
Bang



THAT'S
RIGHT.



WE'RE
GOING
TO FIGHT
HERE?

HMPH...

SFX:
Gulp



IT'S
BECAUSE
I DON'T
WANT TO.



ONE, IT
WOULD BE
USELESS TO
TRY TO FIGHT
WHEN YOU
HAVE THE
ADVANTAGE
IN SPACING.

I HAVE TWO
REASONS.



I'M NOT
FOOLISH
ENOUGH
TO DRAW
MY SWORD
HERE.

RIGHT
NOW... YOU
CONTROL
THE SPACE.



THERE'S NO
REASON
TO GET RID
OF LIKE-
MINDED
WARRIORS.

NOT ONLY
WOULD
KILLING
EACH
OTHER
HAVE NO
MEANING...



THE
SECOND
POINT?

AND?



JUST GET TO THE POINT ALREADY.





IF YOU
LEAVE NOW,
YOU SHOULD
MAKE IT, BUT...
THIS MIGHT BE
YOUR LAST
CHANCE.



IF YOU STAY
SOME PLACE
WHERE OUR
EYES DON'T
REACH, THEN I
DOUBT ANYONE
WOULD HAVE
A PROBLEM.

YOU'RE
ALREADY
DISCONNECTED
FROM THE
CURRENT OF
THE WORLD.



SFX:
Gulp




SFX:
Stand

**LEAVE EDO,
IMUTA!**



ISN'T
THIS CON-
VENIENT?

HMPH.




**THE ONES WHO'VE
CHANGED ME...
THE ONES WHO'VE
DRAGGED ME INTO
THIS CURRENT
ARE THE GUYS
AT THE TOP!**

**I AM NO LONGER
THE MAN WHO ONCE
WANTED TO LIVE
WITH FISHERMEN!**

SFX:
Clack



**I'M GETTING
MY REVENGE.**

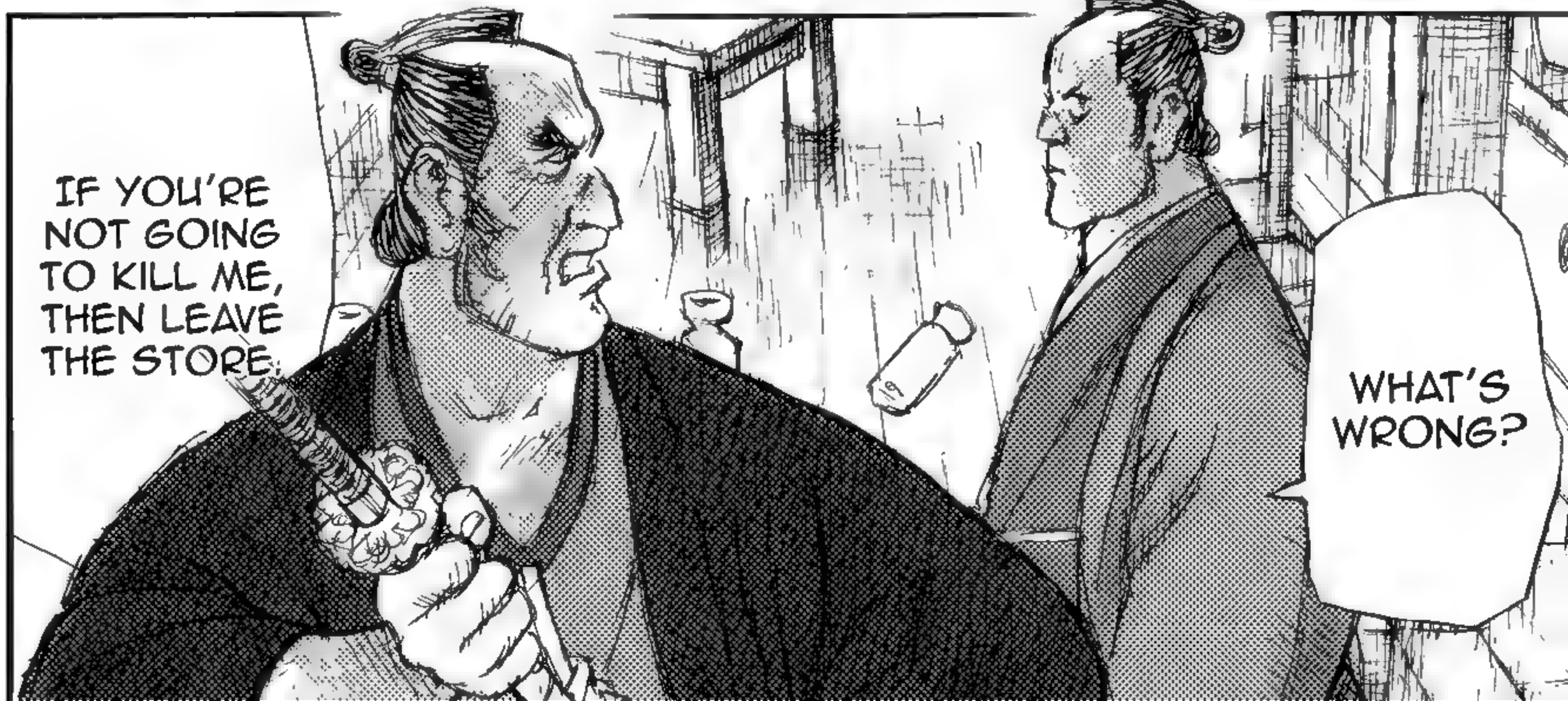
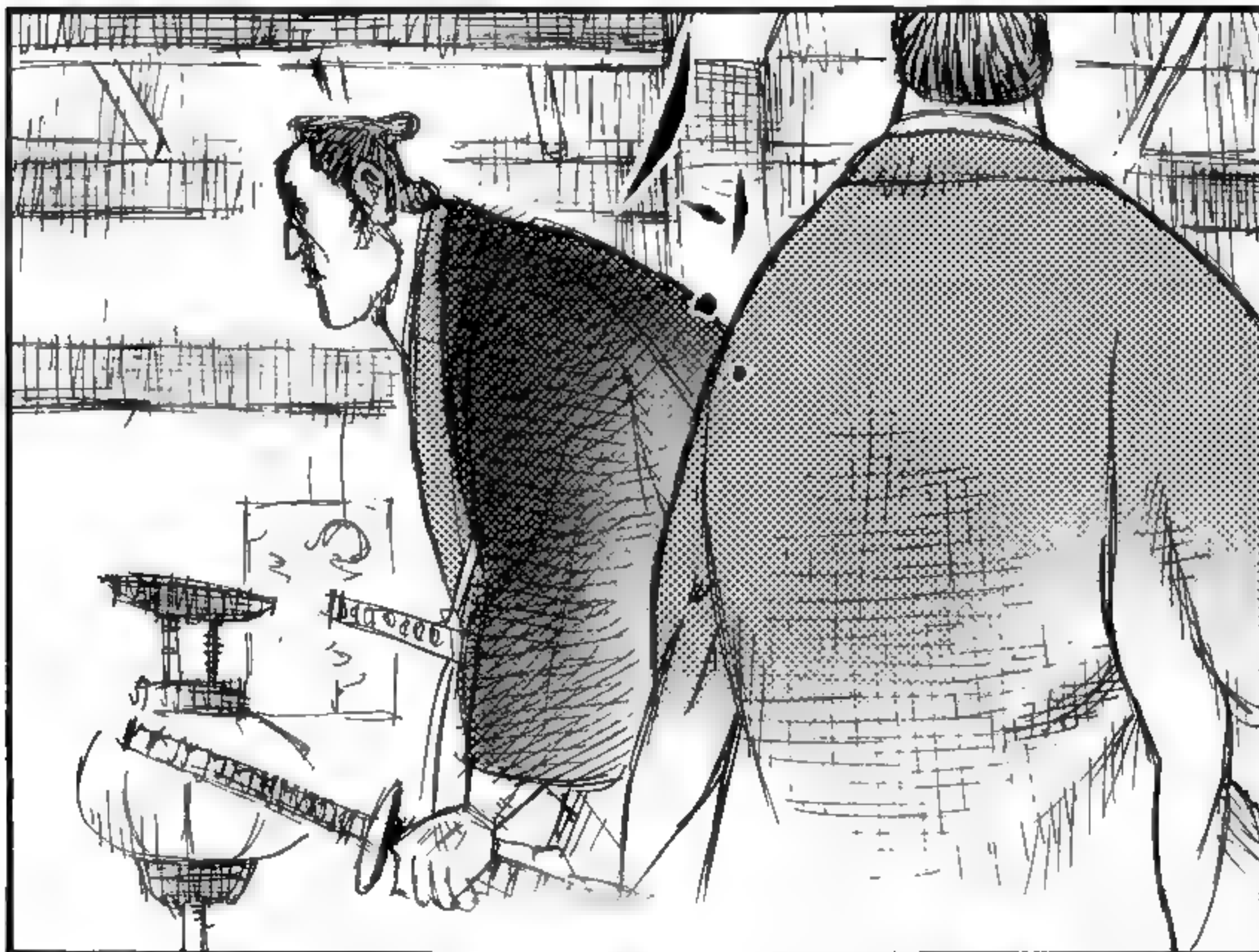


**REALISING MY
OWN WAY OF LIFE
AGAINST THIS
CURRENT IS THE
TRUE FORM OF
MY REVENGE!**

**GOING AFTER
GUERRILLA
PEASANTS IS
NO MORE THAN
A PART OF IT.**



SFX:
Steep...



SFX:
SH

YOU
SHOULD
DO WHAT
YOU LIKE.

I NO
LONGER
HAVE
ANYTHING
TO SAY.

YOU HAVE
THE AD-
VANTAGE,
I'M NOT
FIGHTING

I
ALREADY
SAID,

GET ME A
BOTTLE!

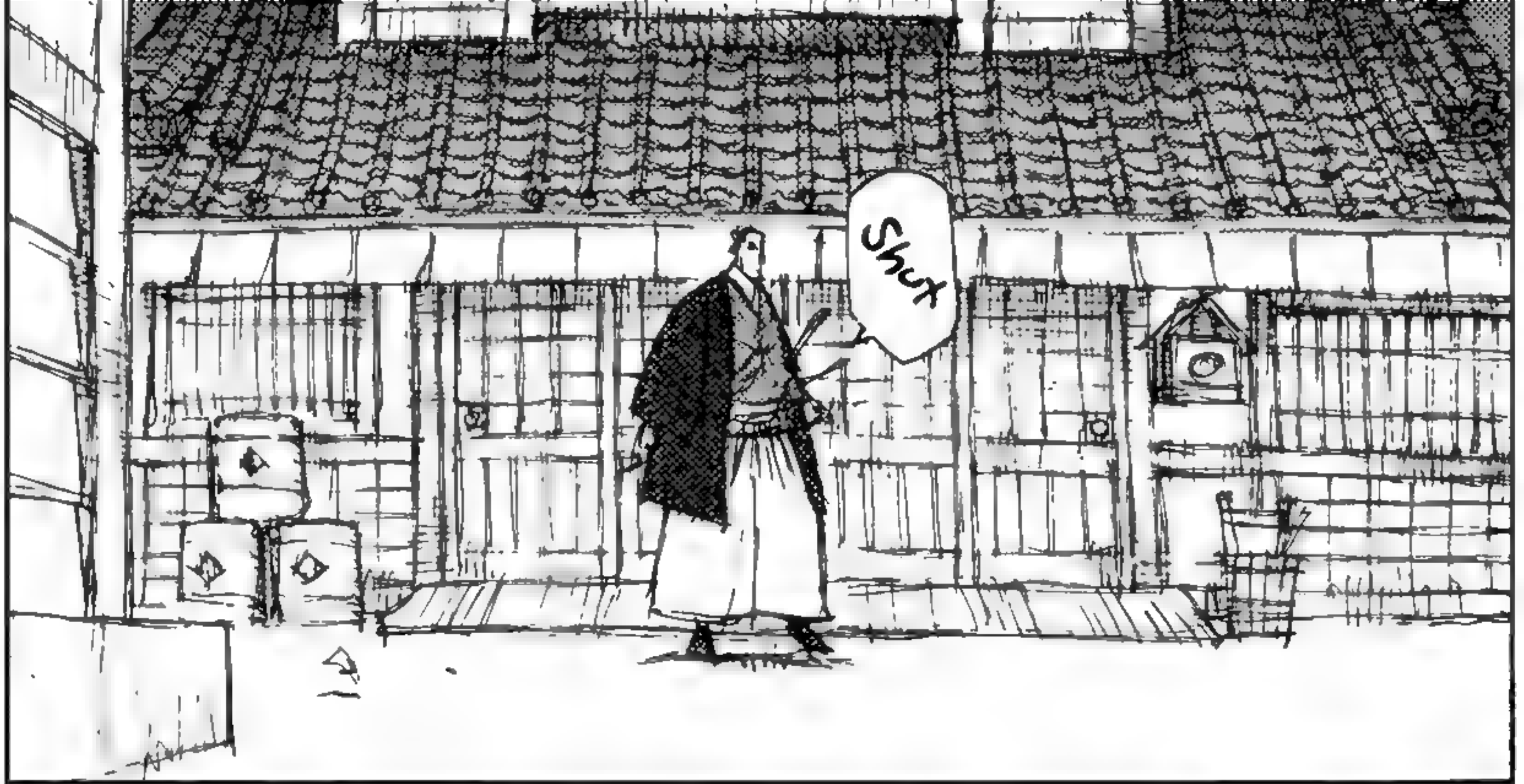
OLD MAN,
SWEET SAKE!

I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND
YOU...

HMPH.

YES,
COMING
UP!

SFX:
Step





SFX:
steps





**PREPARE
YOURSELF!**

**IMUTA THE
TRAITOR!**



**SO
THAT'S
HOW
IT IS.**

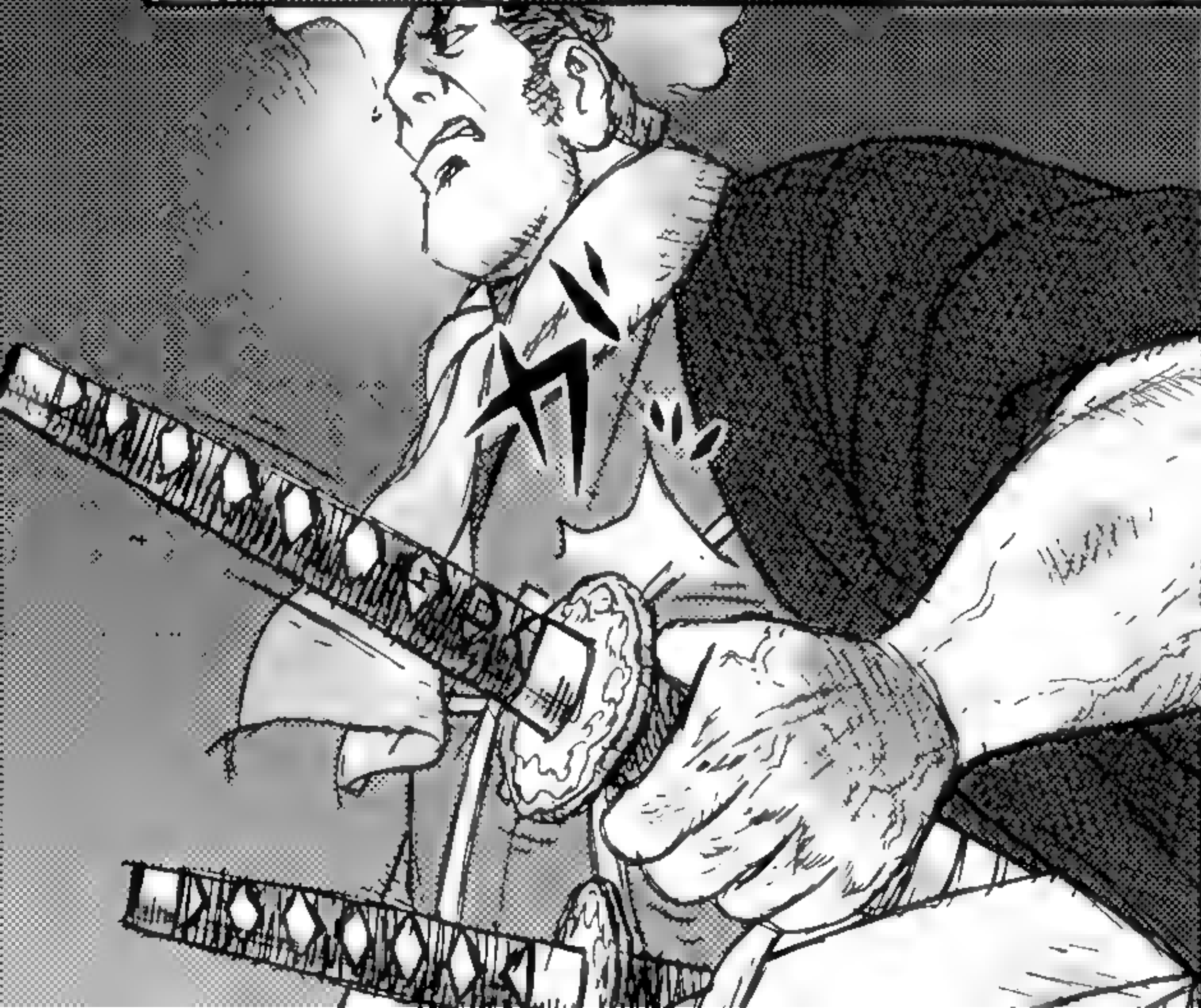
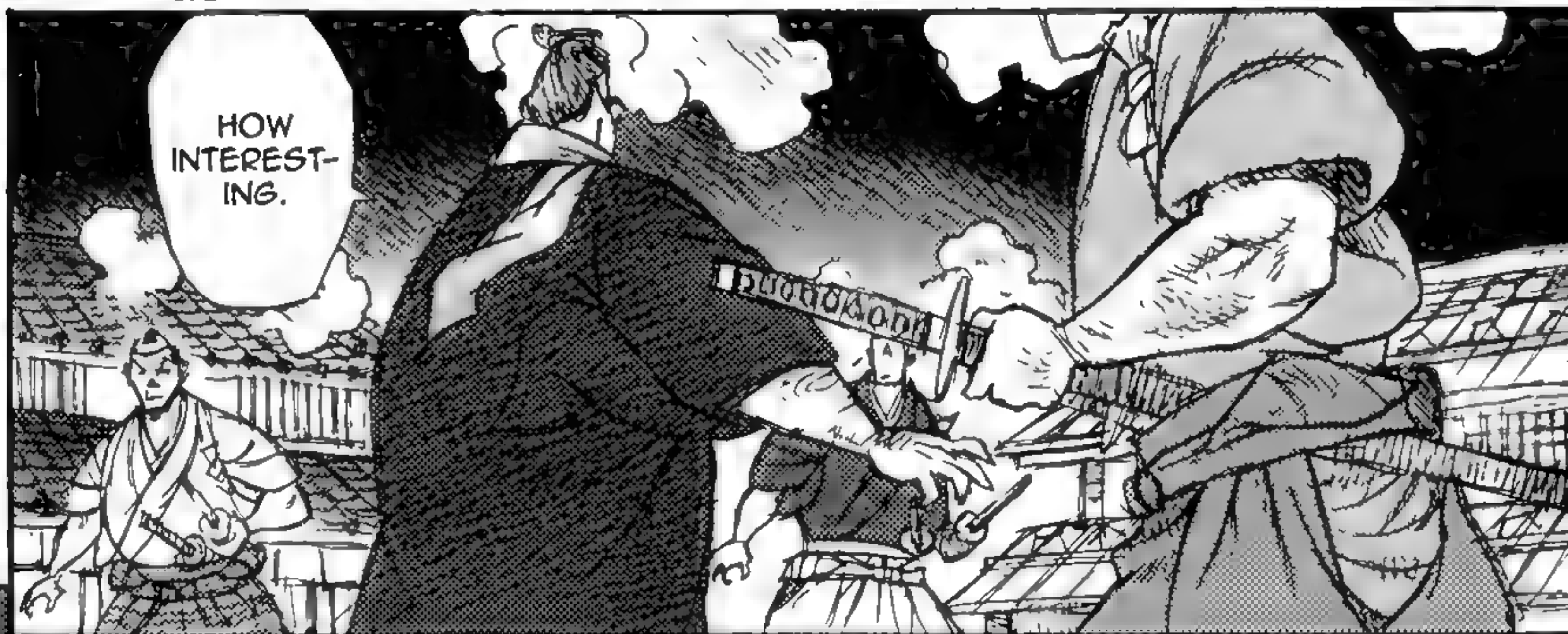
I SEE.



CHAPTER 25: FUTURE





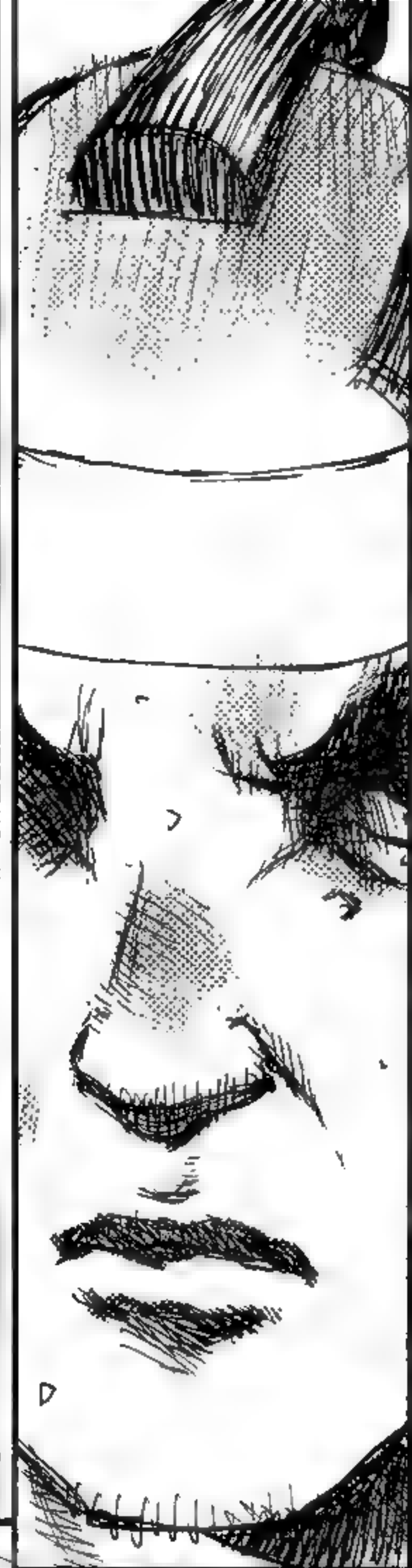




COME
AT ME.

I DON'T
CARE HOW
YOU DO IT.

SFX:
PUM





SFX: Slash

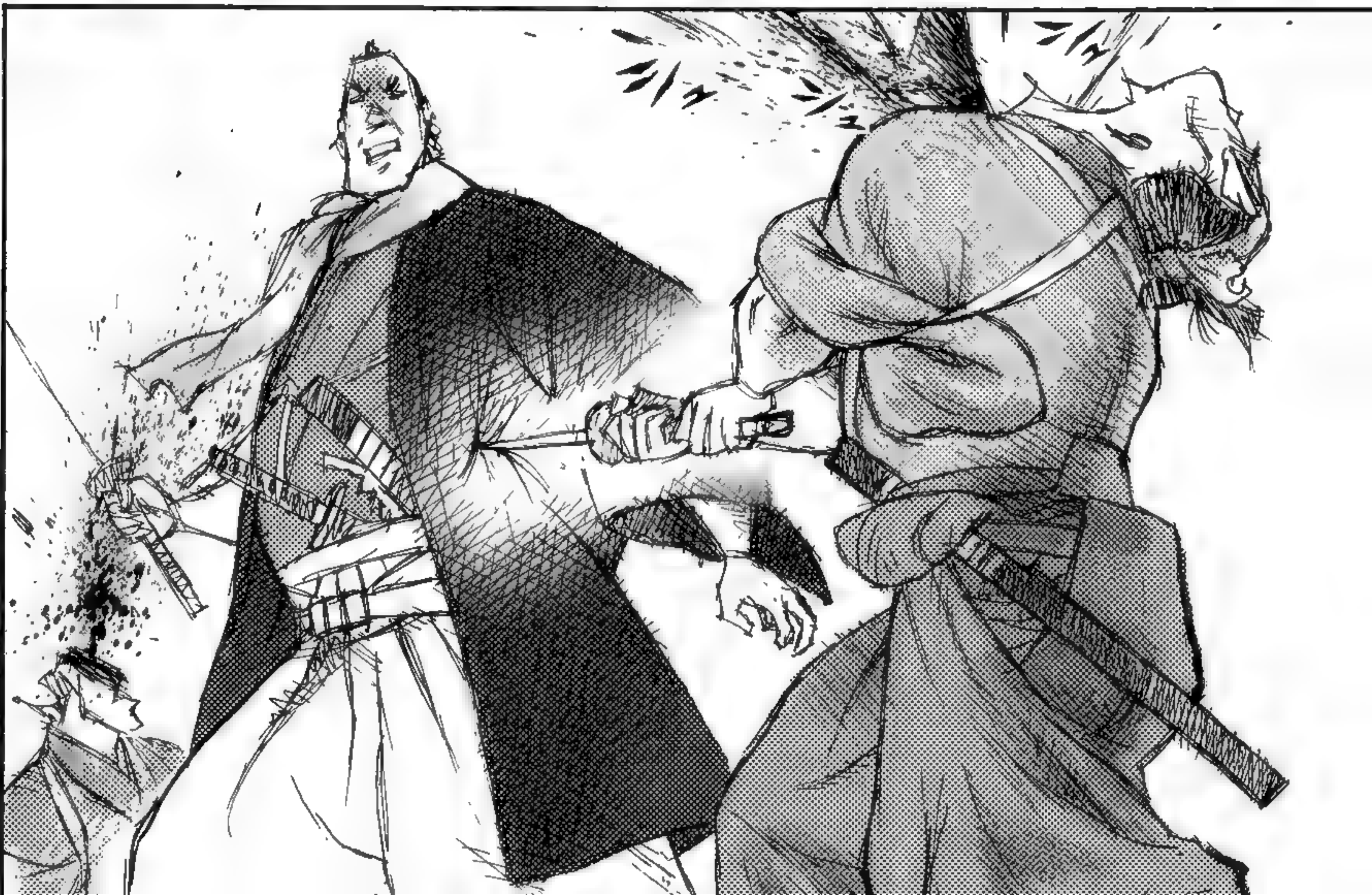
SFX: Swoosh



SFX:
Splurt,
Bam



SFX:
splurt
splurt
splurt





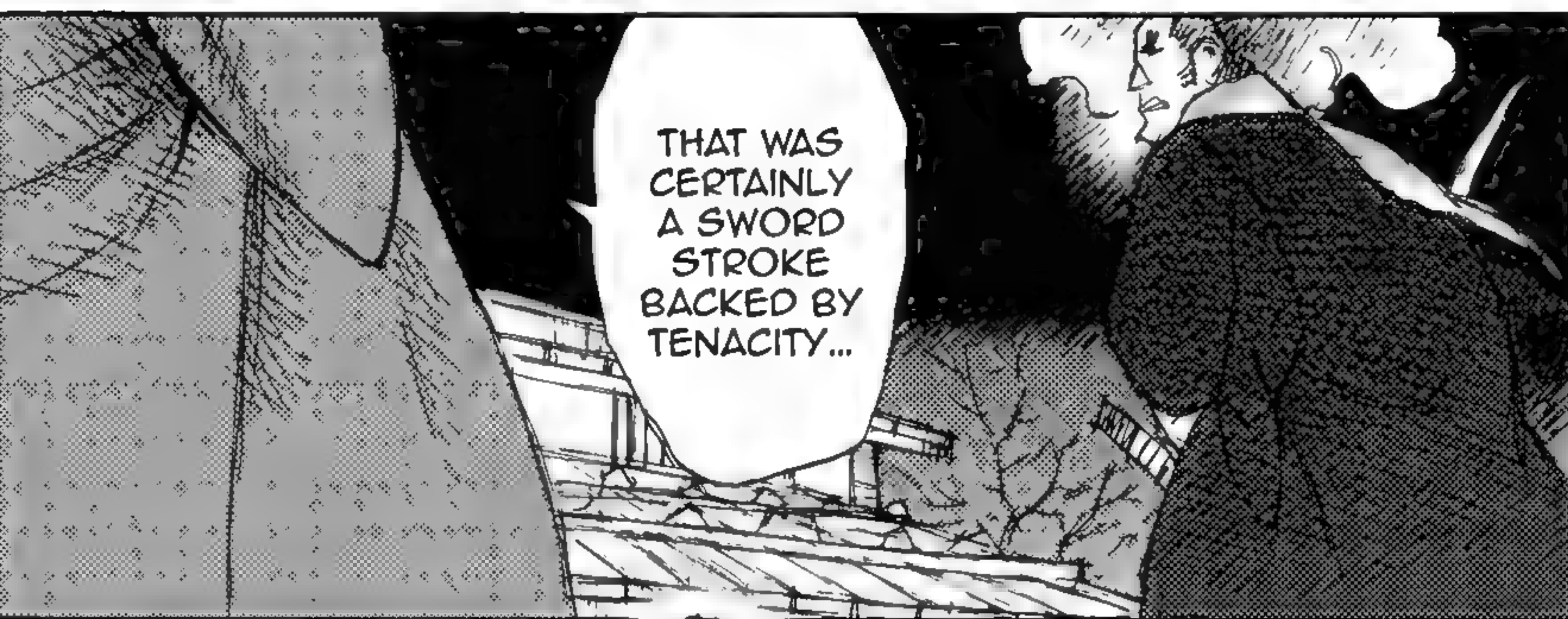
THIS
IS...



Squish

NUU...

SFX:
Bump,
step away



THAT WAS
CERTAINLY
A SWORD
STROKE
BACKED BY
TENACITY...



JUST AS
I FEARED.

BUT
BECAUSE
OF THAT,
FOUR
WARRIORS
HAVE DIED.

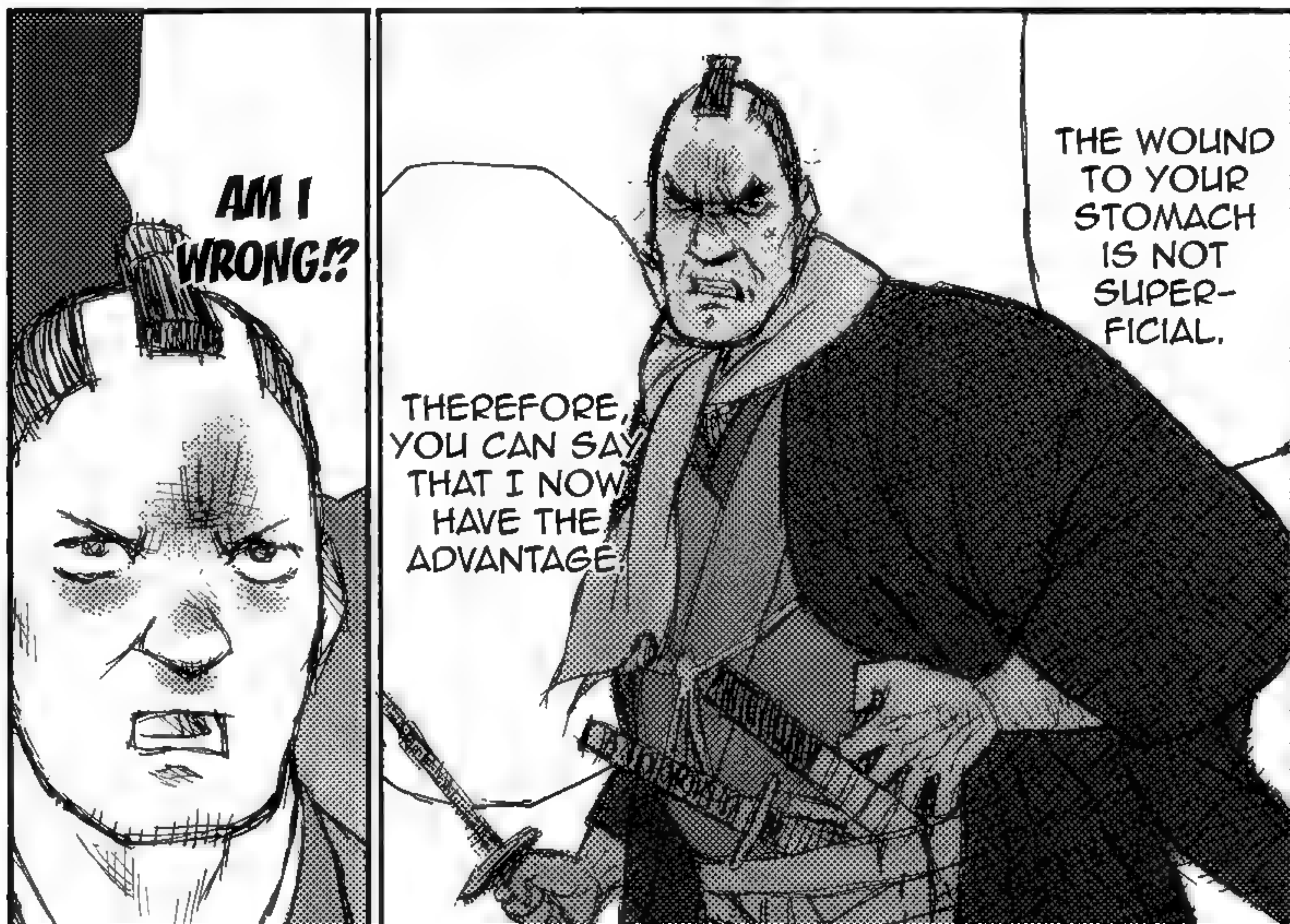


KAIEDA...



AND AS
FOR MY
SECOND
REASON...

WITH THIS,
ONE OF THE
REASONS
FOR NOT
PULLING OUT
MY SWORD
HAS DIS-
APPEARED.



**AM I
WRONG!?**

THEREFORE,
YOU CAN SAY
THAT I NOW
HAVE THE
ADVANTAGE.

THE WOUND
TO YOUR
STOMACH
IS NOT
SUPER-
FICIAL.

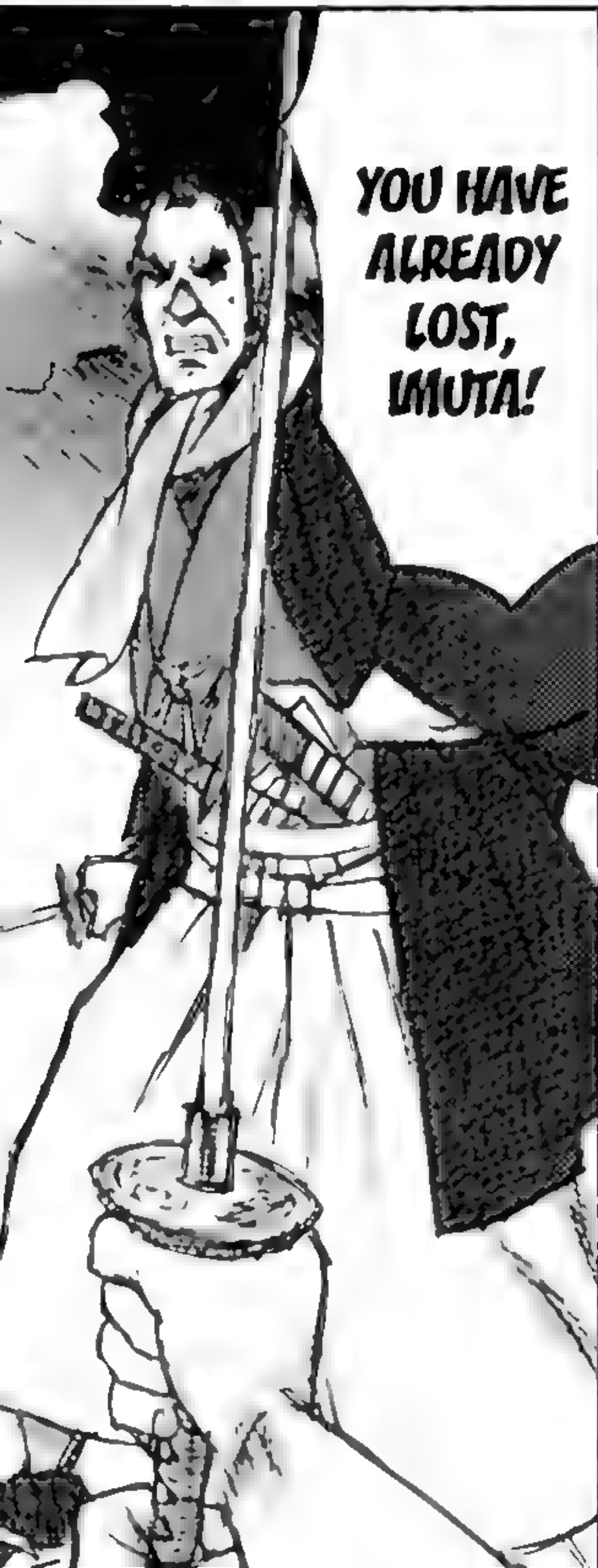


THEN
RESIST
AS BEST
YOU CAN.



YOU
AREN'T
GOING
TO CUT
ME THAT
EASILY.

IS
THAT
SO.



YOU HAVE
ALREADY
LOST,
IMUTA!



SFX:
fight
grab

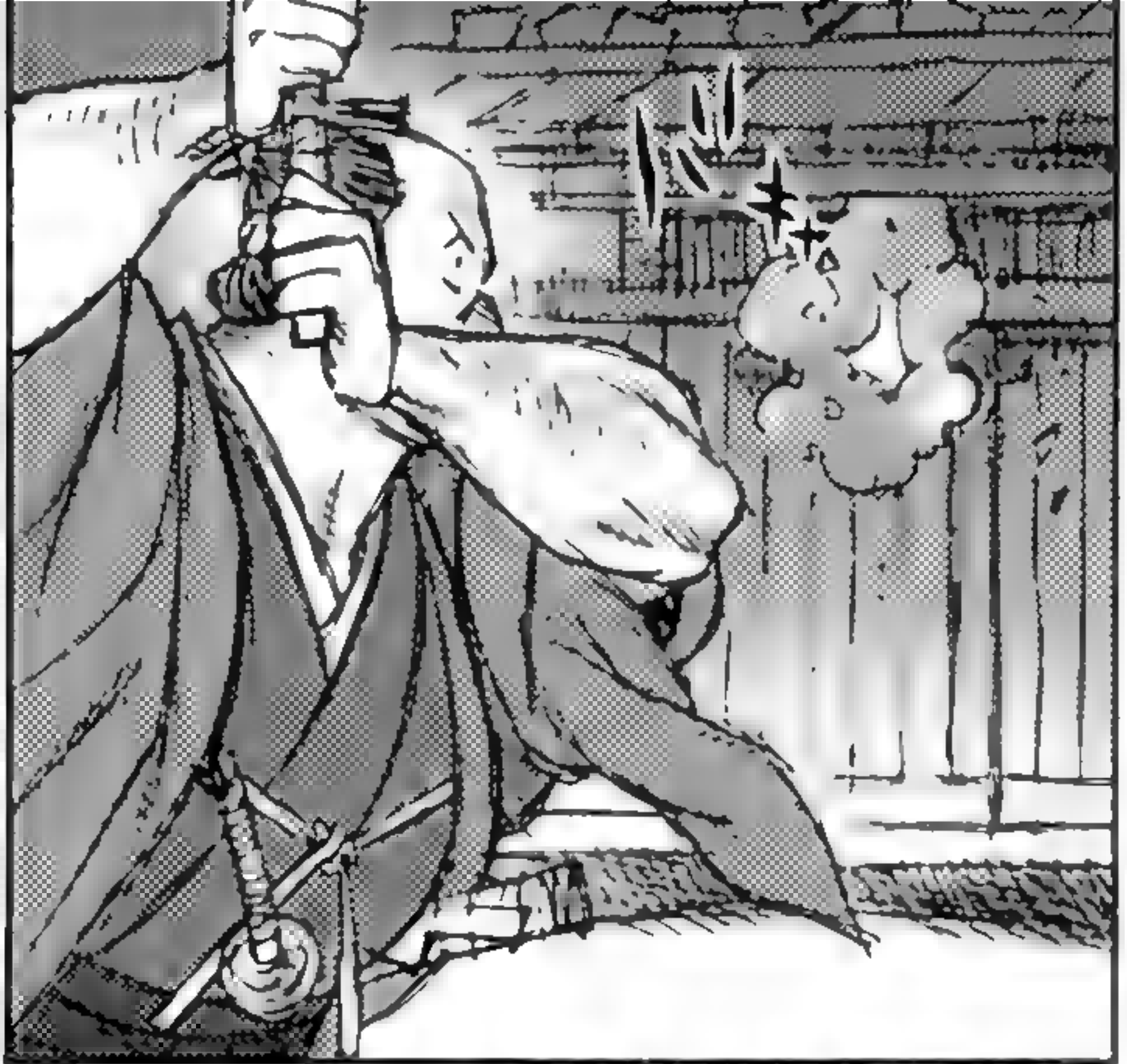


SFX:
grab



TCH.





SFX:
crack





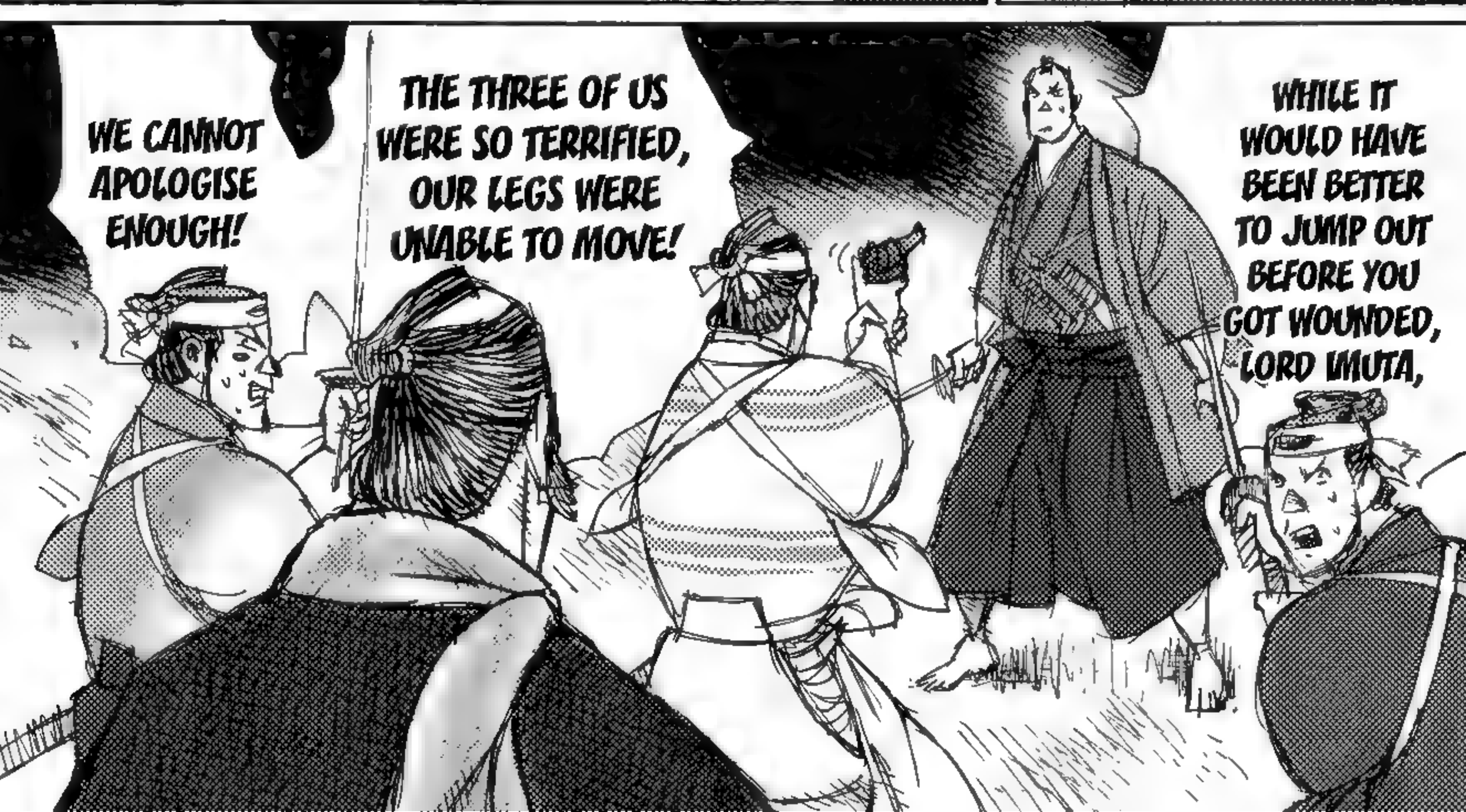
YOU
GUYS...



SFX:
dashing

TAKE-
YOSHI...
SABU-
ROU...!

HIRONO-
SHIN!



WE CANNOT
APOLOGISE
ENOUGH!


THE THREE OF US
WERE SO TERRIFIED,
OUR LEGS WERE
UNABLE TO MOVE!

WHILE IT
WOULD HAVE
BEEN BETTER
TO JUMP OUT
BEFORE YOU
GOT WOUNDED,
LORD MUTA,



**PLEASE,
MAKE HASTE
AND RUN!**

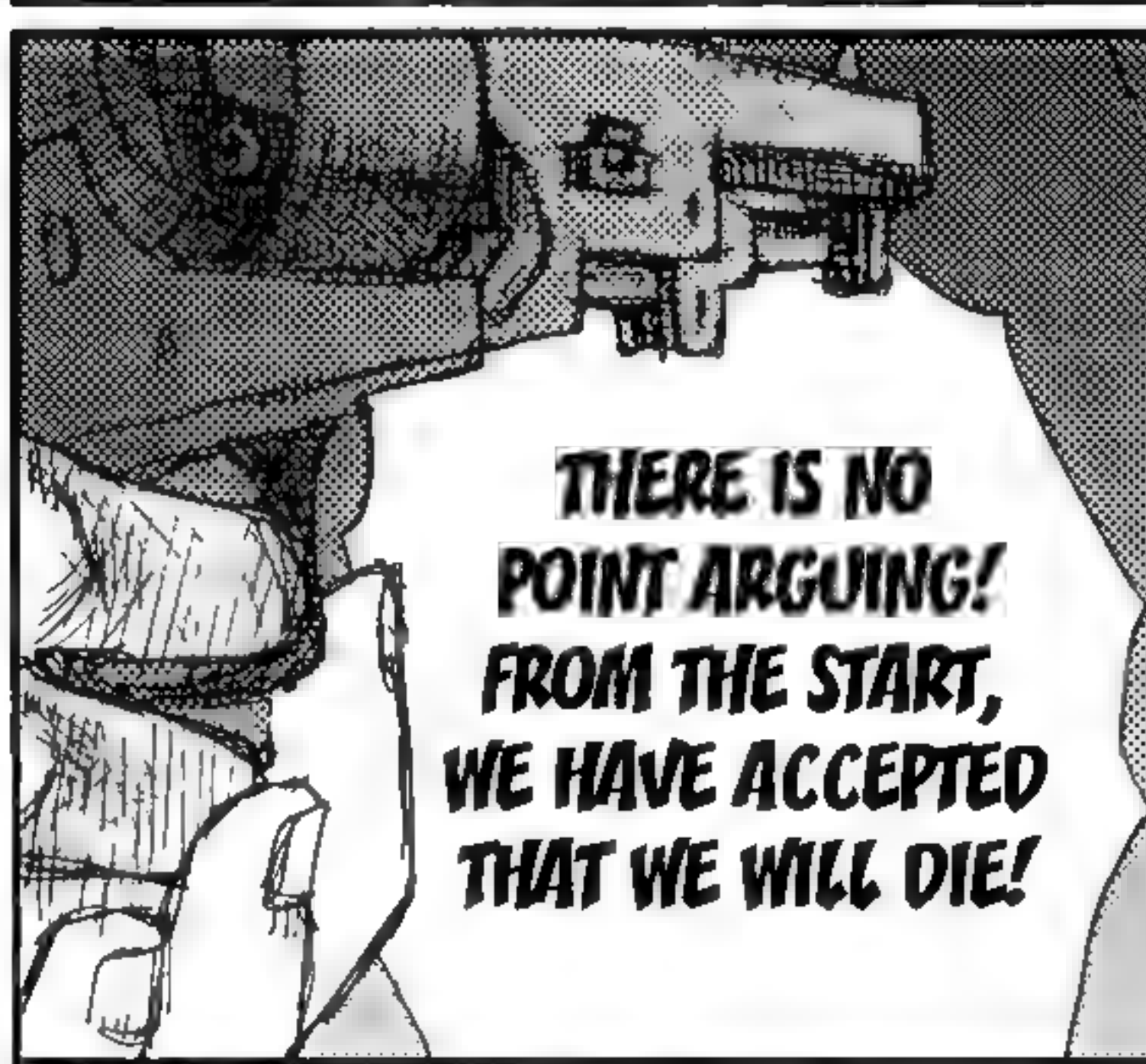
**IT IS TOO
LATE TO SAY
THAT NOW!**



**I THOUGHT I
TOLD YOU NOT
TO WORRY
ABOUT ME!**



**YOU
GUYS!**



**THERE IS NO
POINT ARGUING!
FROM THE START,
WE HAVE ACCEPTED
THAT WE WILL DIE!**



**THE THREE OF
US PREPARED
OURSELVES
TO AID YOU
HERE!**



HURRY!



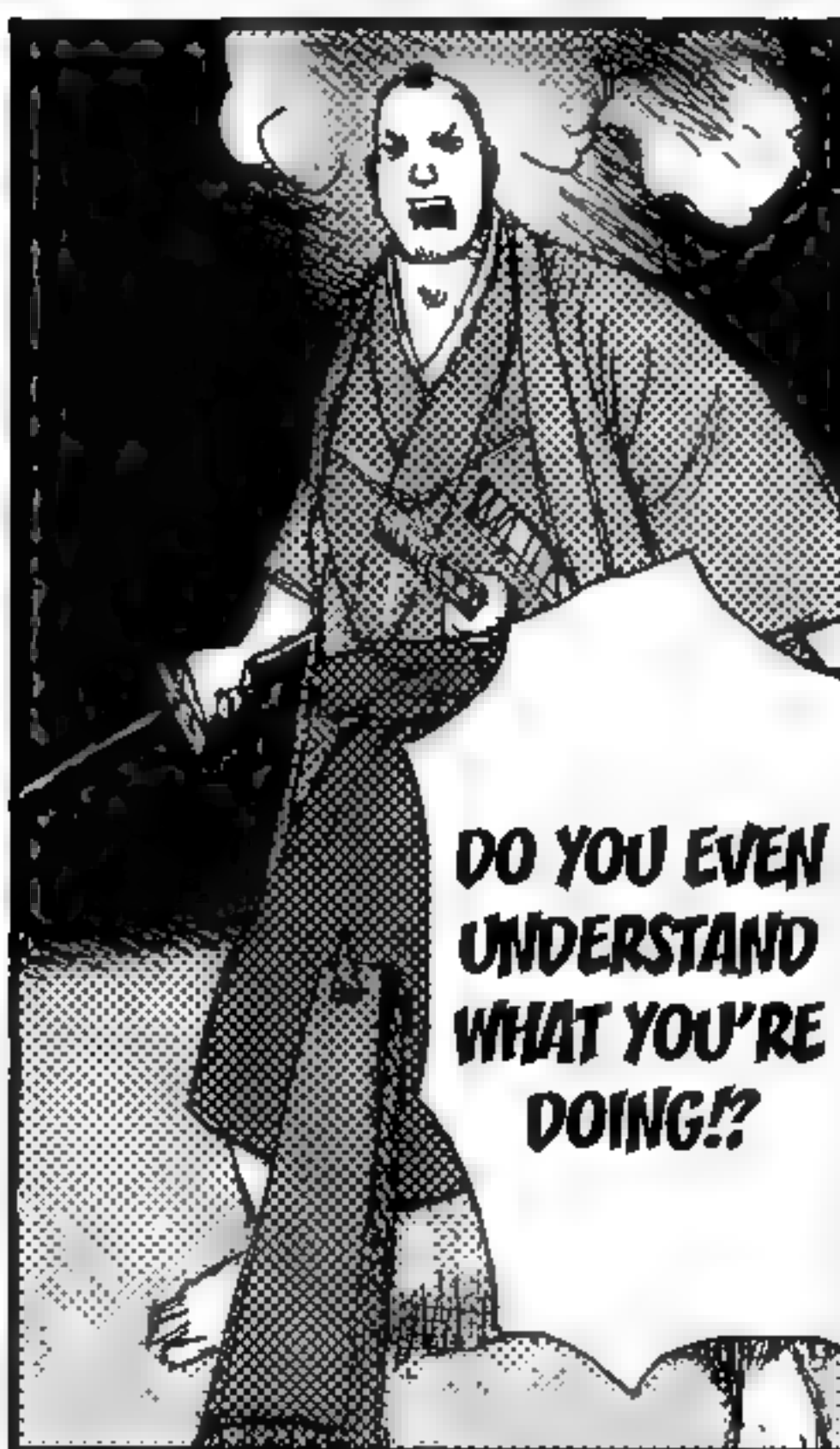
**B-
BUT...**



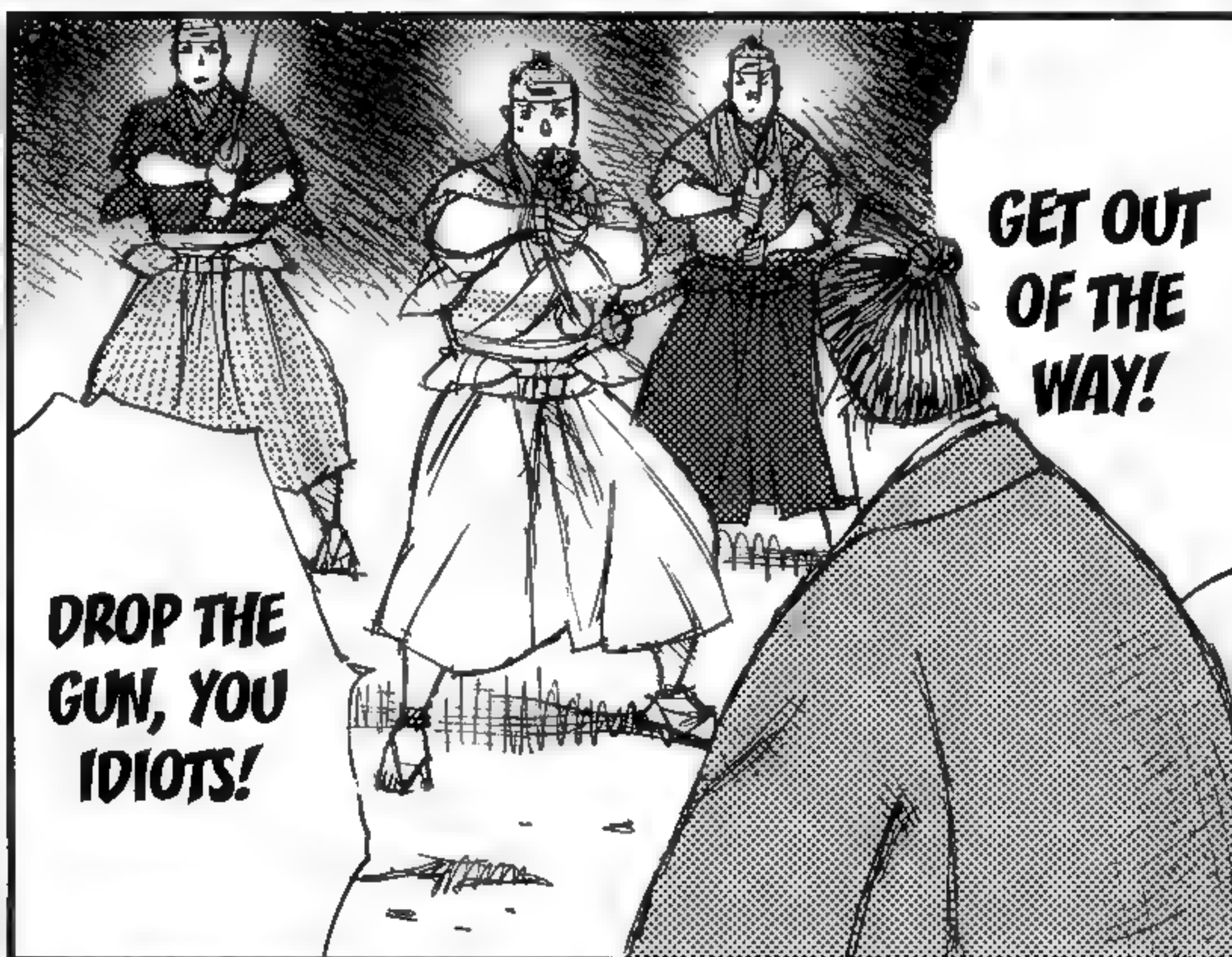
**TO
YOU!**

**WE ENTRUST
MAENOSUKE-
KUN'S
REVENGE...**

SFX:
Dash



DO YOU EVEN
UNDERSTAND
WHAT YOU'RE
DOING!?



DROP THE
GUN, YOU
IDIOTS!

GET OUT
OF THE
WAY!

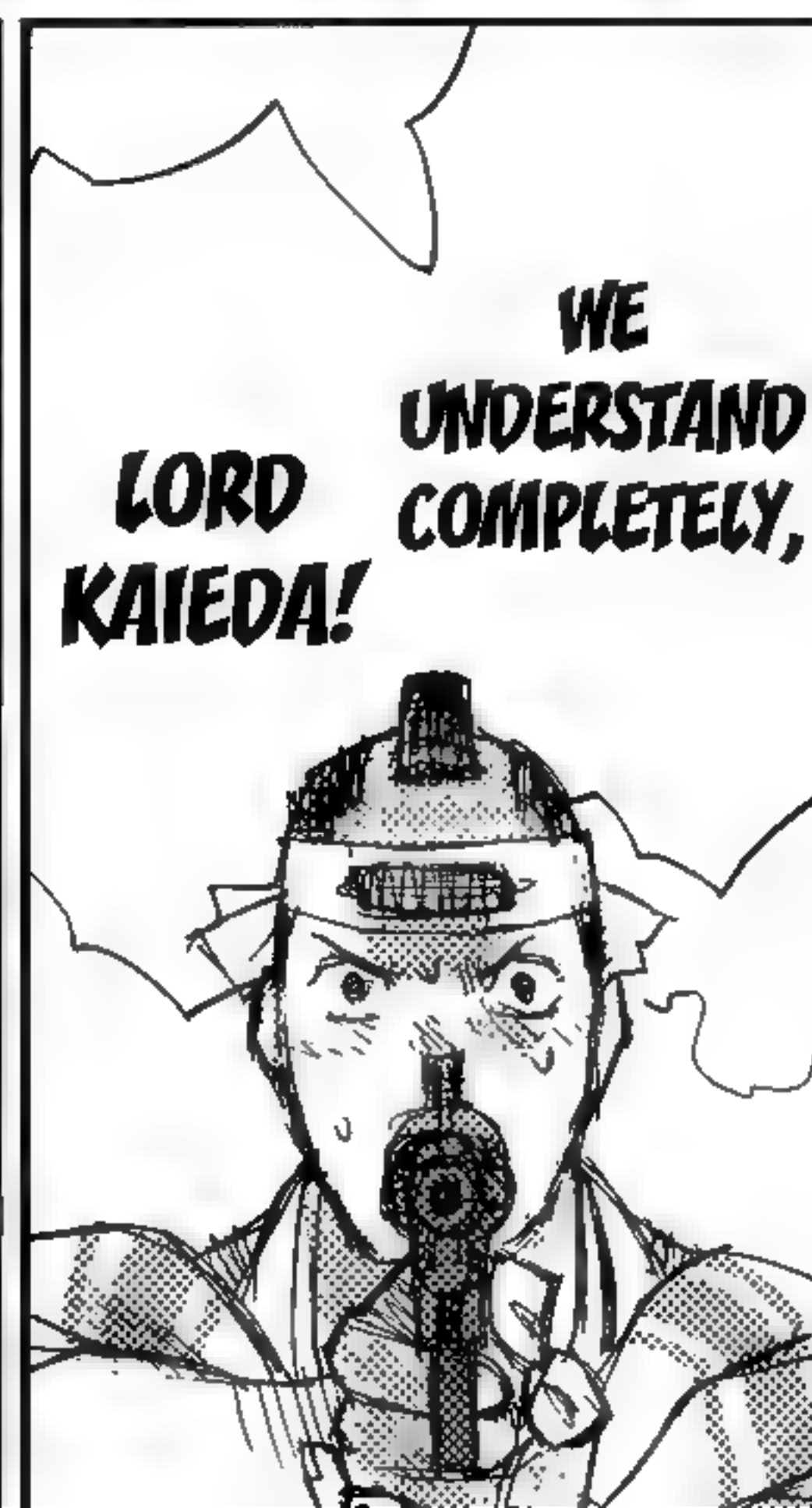


THAT'S
GOOD
ENOUGH!

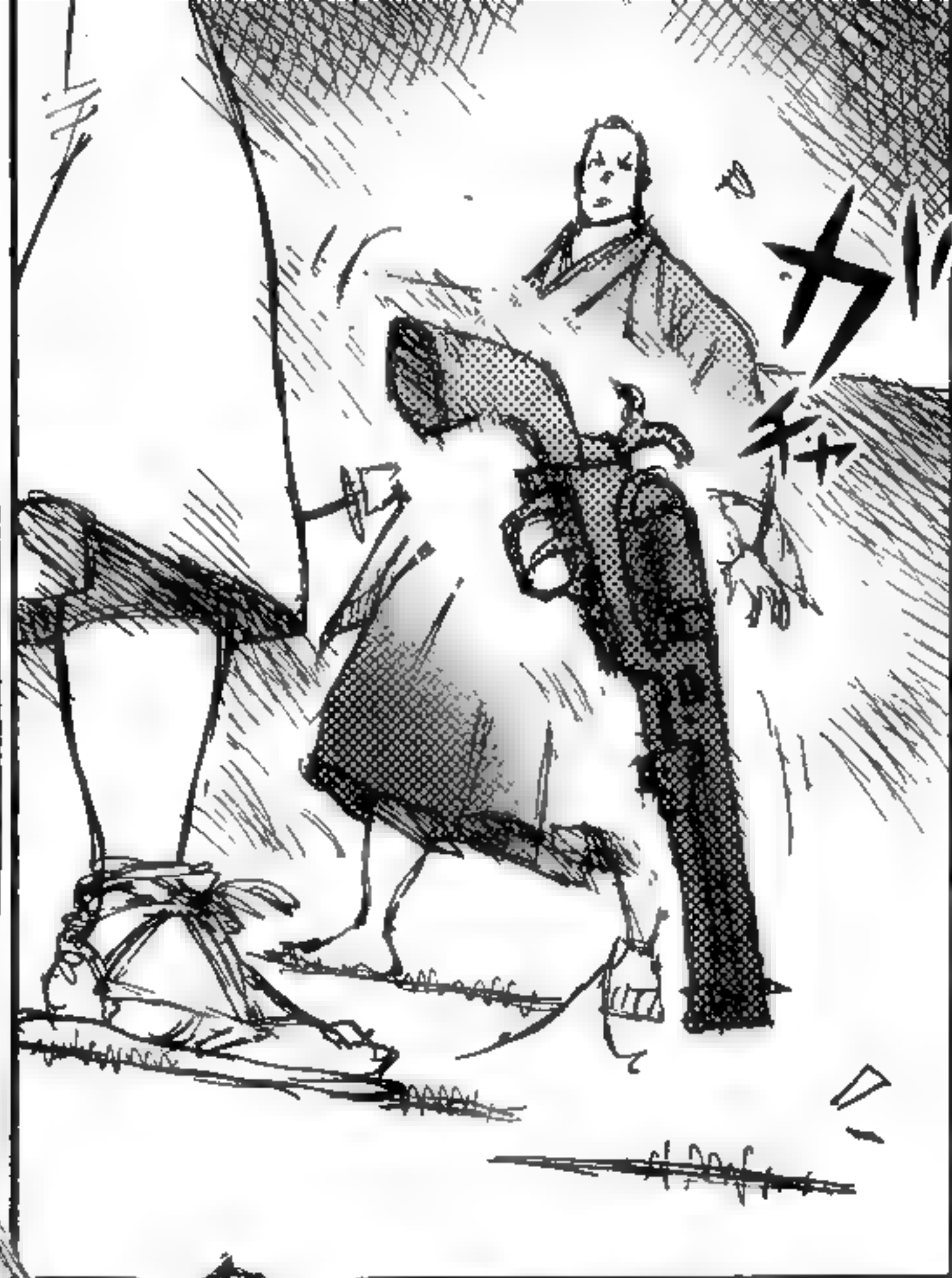
HIRONO-
SHIN!



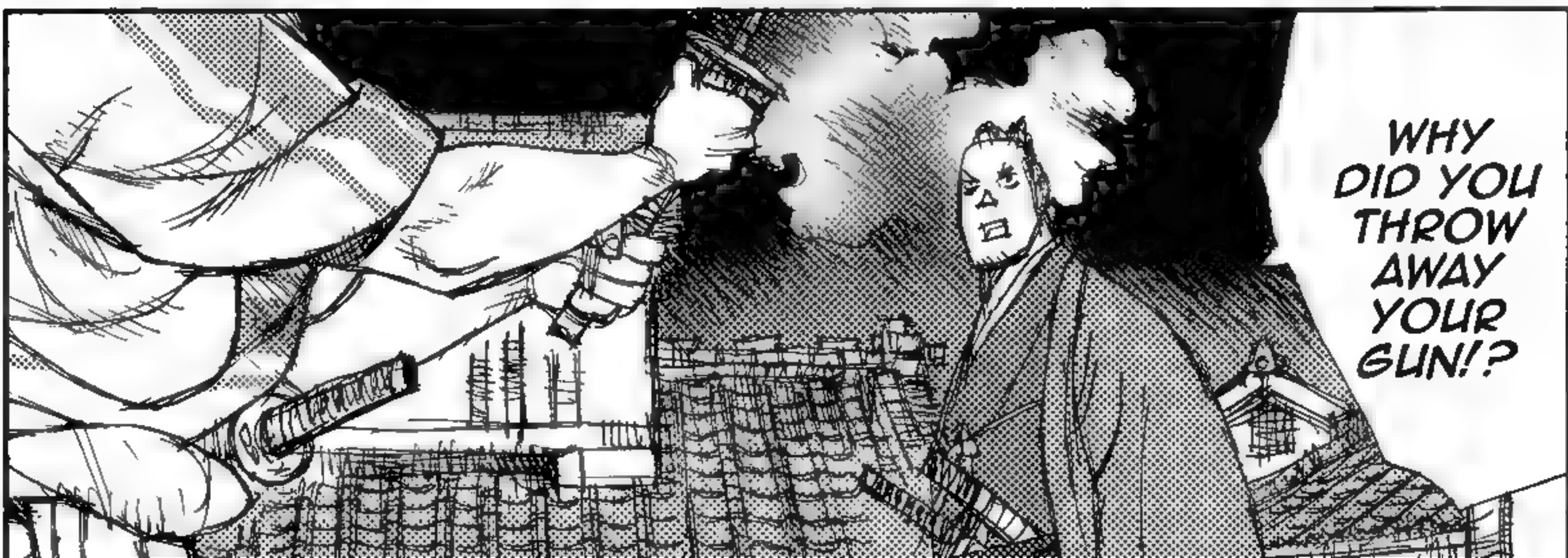
W-WHAT
WAS
THAT!?



WE
UNDERSTAND
COMPLETELY,
LORD
KAIEDA!



SFX:
Clatter

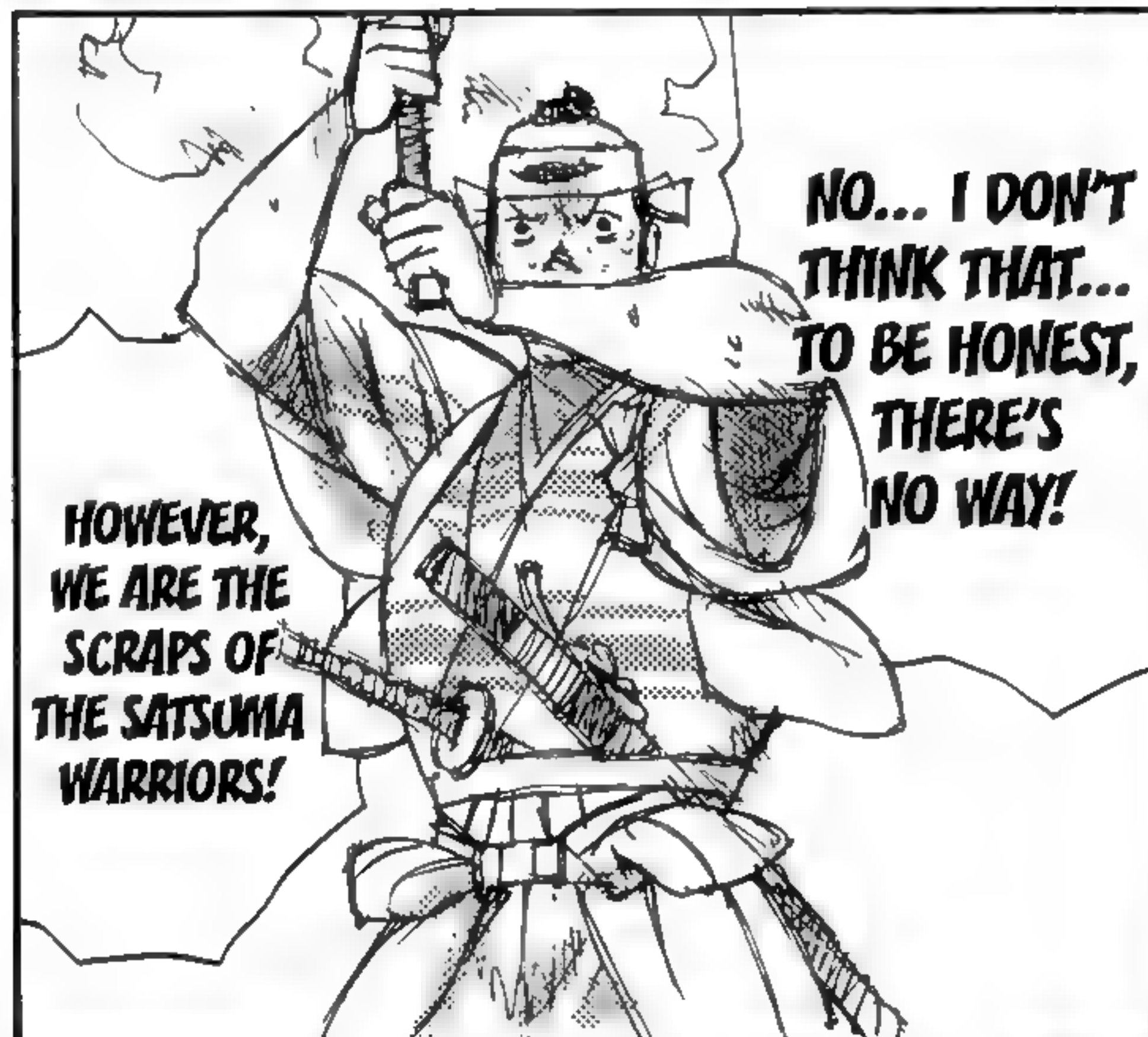


WHY
DID YOU
THROW
AWAY
YOUR
GUN!?



**LET US FIGHT
WITH SWORDS,
FAIR AND
SQUARE.**

**LORD
KAIEDA...**



**NO... I DON'T
THINK THAT...
TO BE HONEST,
THERE'S
NO WAY!**

**HOWEVER,
WE ARE THE
SCRAPS OF
THE SATSUMA
WARRIORS!**



**DO YOU
REALLY
THINK YOU
CAN BEAT
ME?**



**PLEASE
ACCEPT THIS AS
US ACCEPTING
OUR FATE!**

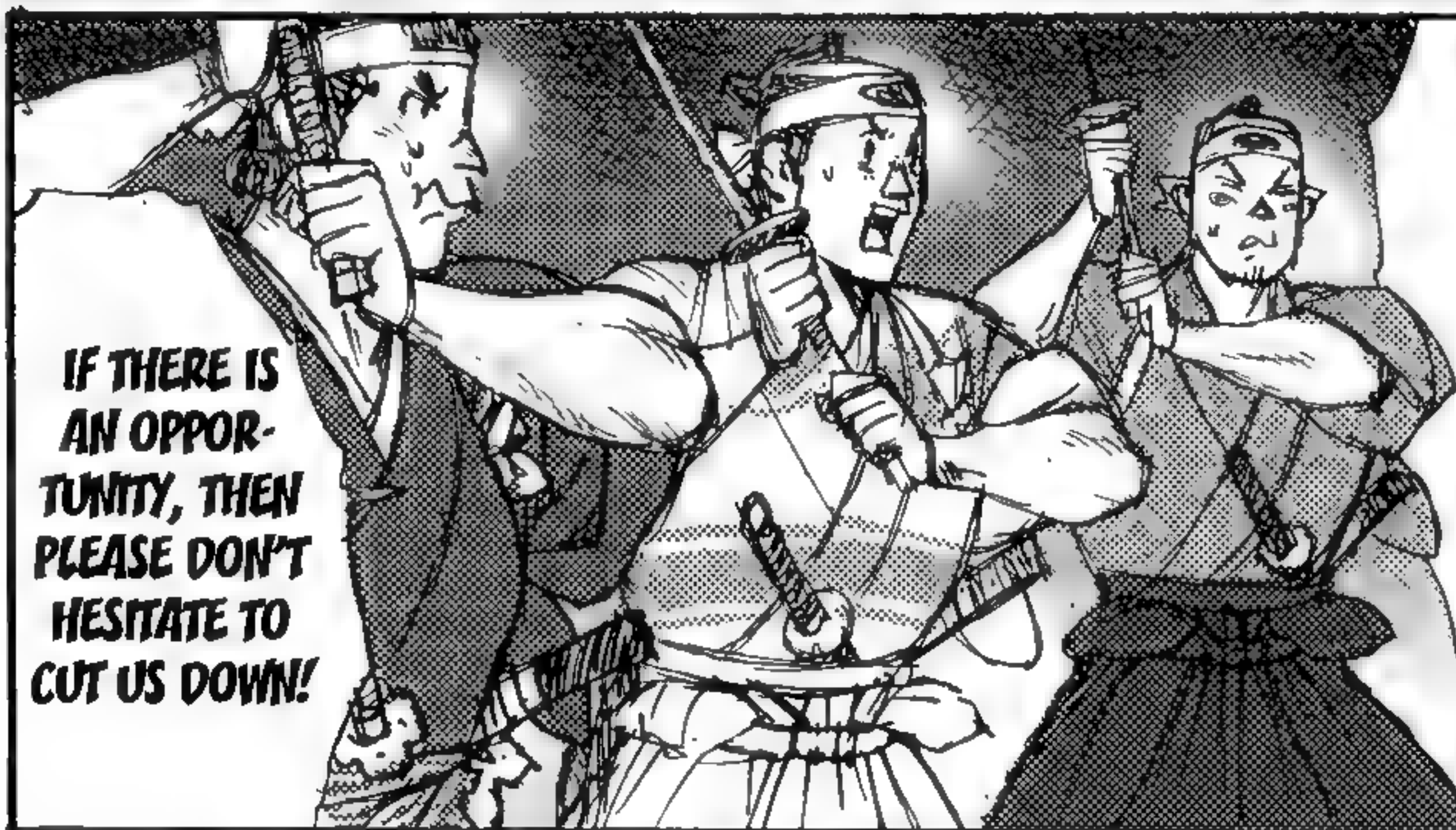
**THE
CONSEQUENCES
FOR OUR ACTIONS
HERE WILL BE
GREAT!**

T/N:
Meowth
that's right!



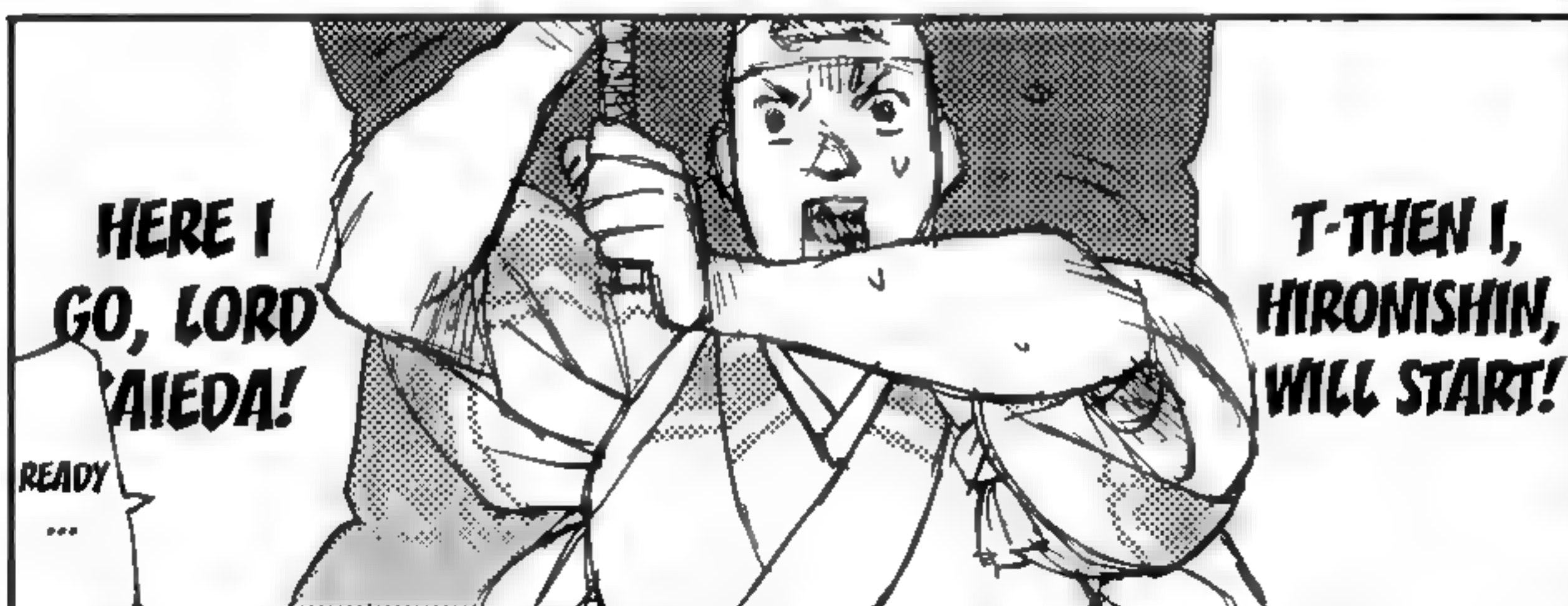
ARE YOU...
SUGGESTING
THAT I KILL
YOU?

W-
WHAT KIND
OF IDIOTIC
THING ARE
YOU SAYING!?



IF THERE IS
AN OPPOR-
TUNITY, THEN
PLEASE DON'T
HESITATE TO
CUT US DOWN!

WELL... WE
WILL TRY OUR
BEST, BUT THE
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN OUR
SWORD SKILLS
IS QUITE
VAST... SO,



HERE I
GO, LORD
MAEDA!

READY
...

T-THEN I,
HIRONISHIN,
WILL START!



GO!

SFX:
dash



SHIT...!

WHAT ON
EARTH IS
THIS...!?



SFX:
Jerk



YOUR
KATANA...

L-LORD
KAIEDA.



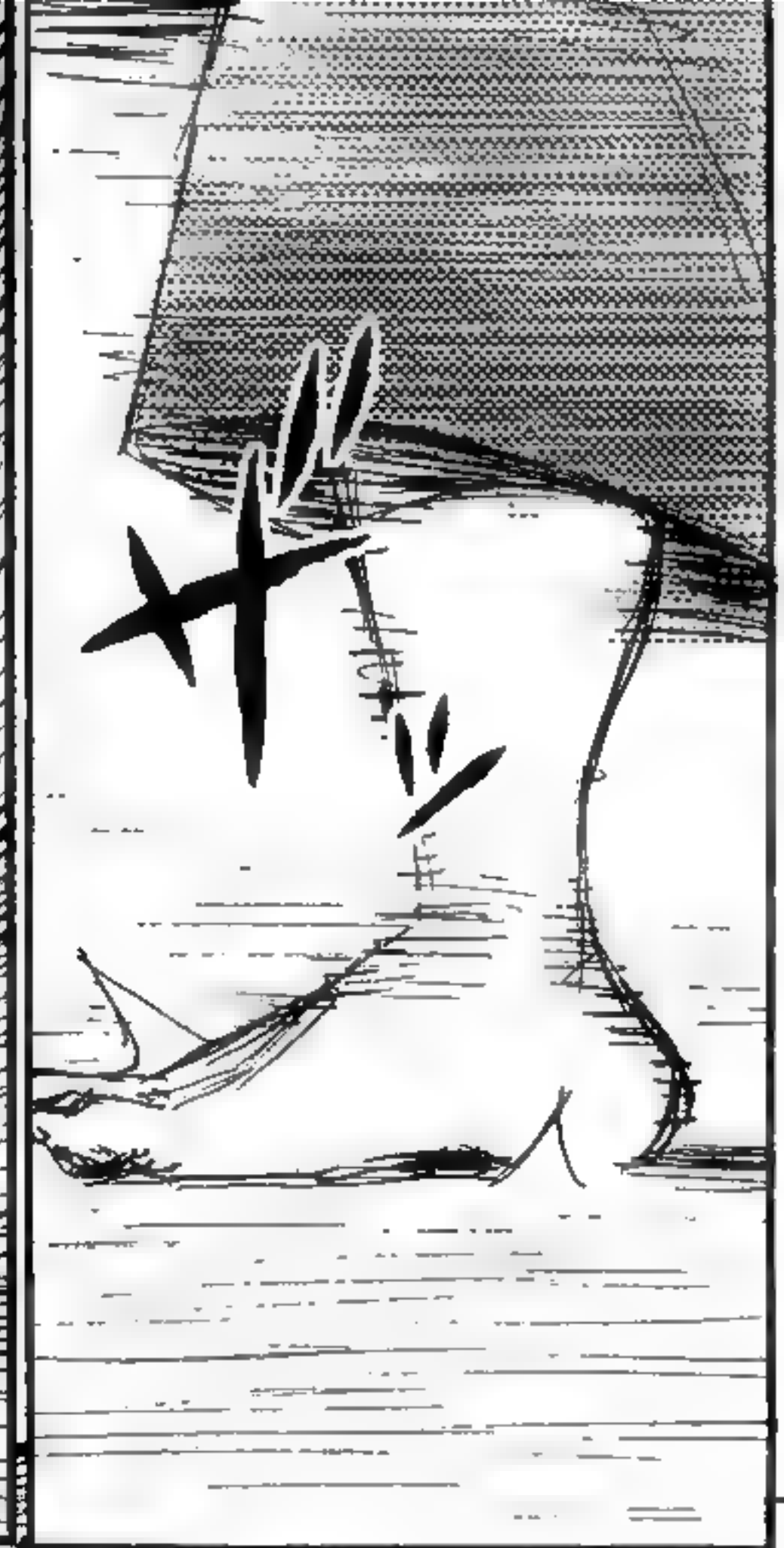
SFX:
Clatter,
Doof





**CLENCH
THOSE
TEETH
TIGHT!**

**YOU
THREE!**



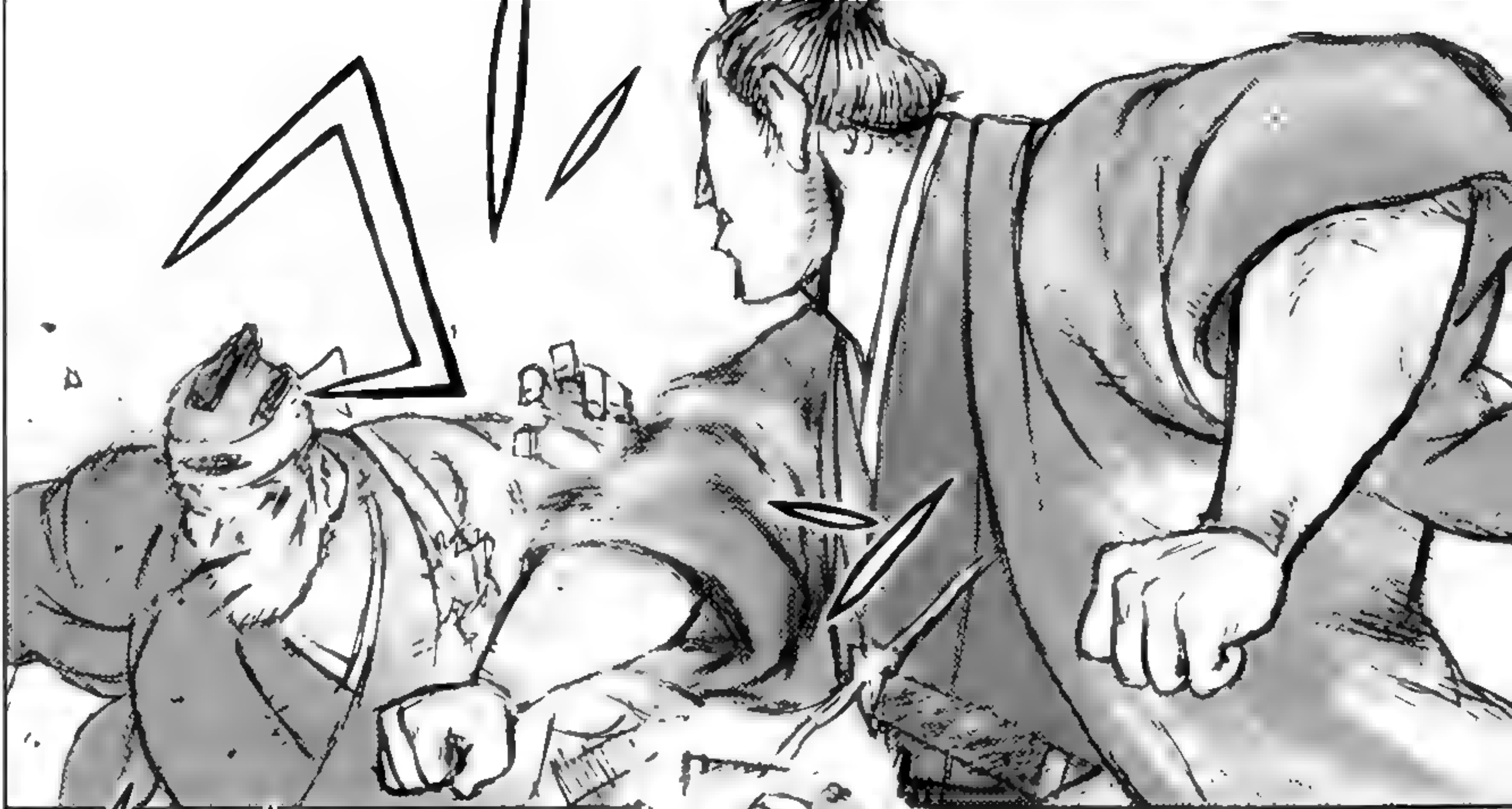
SFX:
Stomp,
stomp
stomp

SFX: grab,
whack



**SIR, WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING...**

SFX:
Thump



SFX
from left
clockwise:
THWACK,
spin spin,
Slam





**WHILE THE
WOUNDS ON YOUR
BODY WILL HEAL,
THE SCARS IN
YOUR HEART WILL
REMAIN FOREVER!**

**YOU
YOUNGSTERS
MUST NEVER
FORGET THIS
PAIN!**



SFX:
wipe

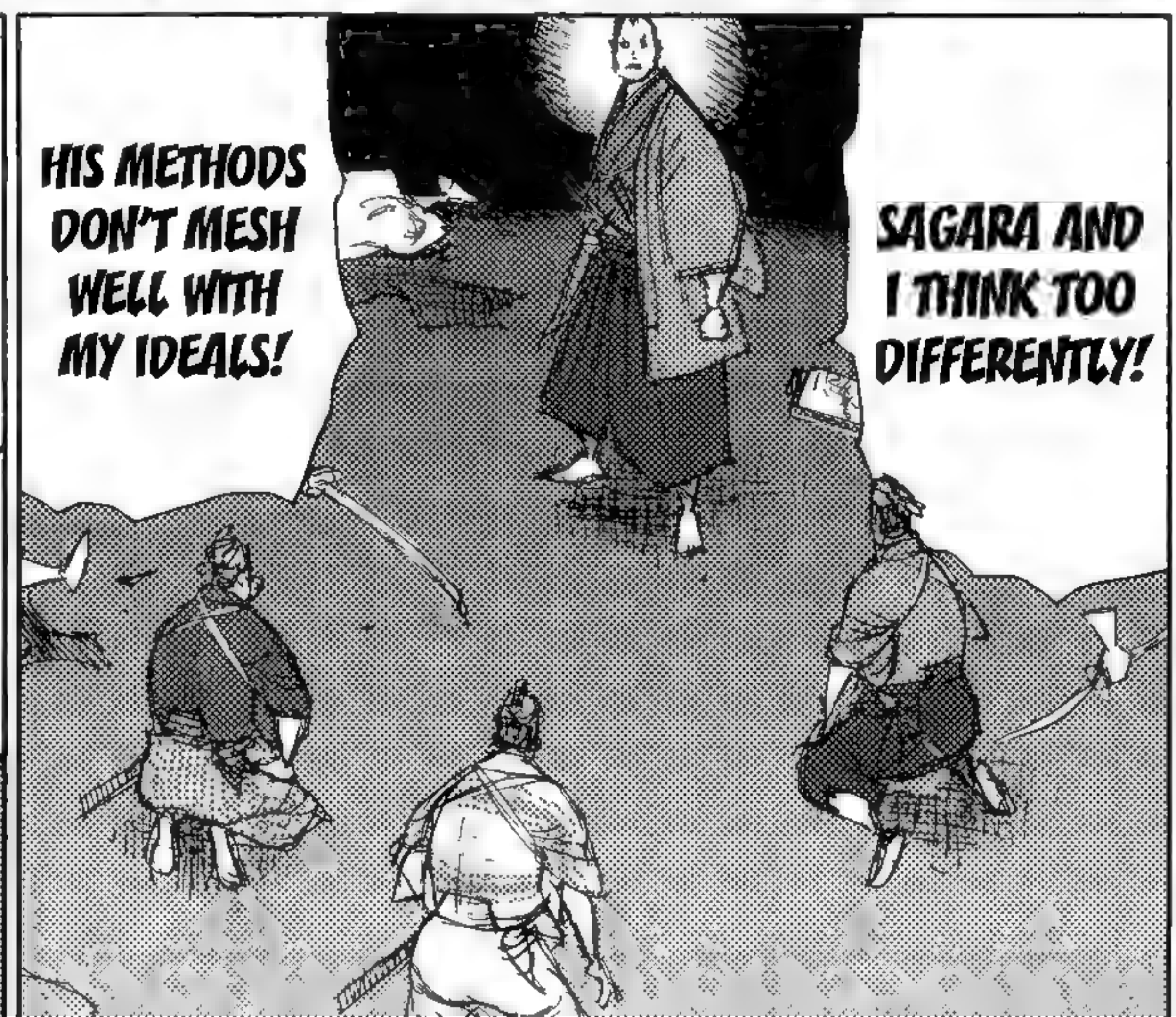


**LORD
KAIEDA...**



**AND
I WILL
DO IT
MY OWN
WAY!**

**I WILL
CHANGE
THIS
NATION**



**HIS METHODS
DON'T MESH
WELL WITH
MY IDEALS!**

**SAGARA AND
I THINK TOO
DIFFERENTLY!**







**WOULD YOU
BE ABLE TO
TAKE US
WITH YOU!?**

**IF YOU CAN
FORGIVE US
FOR OUR
TRANSGRES-
SIONS,**



**IF LORD KAIEDA
WAS TO FIND SOME
WAY FOR US TO BE
USEFUL WITHOUT THE
USE OF SWORDS,
WE WOULD GLADLY
BE OF SERVICE
TO YOU!**

**EVEN IF YOU
WERE TO LET US
HOLD SWORDS,
WE WOULD STILL
BE FAR TOO
INCOMPETENT!**



**USE OUR
LIVES FOR
THE GOOD
OF THE
WORLD
AND THE
PEOPLE!**

PLEASE!



**THE ONLY
THING WE CAN
DO IS TURN TO
LORD KAIEDA'S
COMPASSION!**

**IF WE WERE
TO RETURN
TO BASE
LIKE THIS,
WE WILL
JUST BE
DISPOSED
OF!**



HMPH.



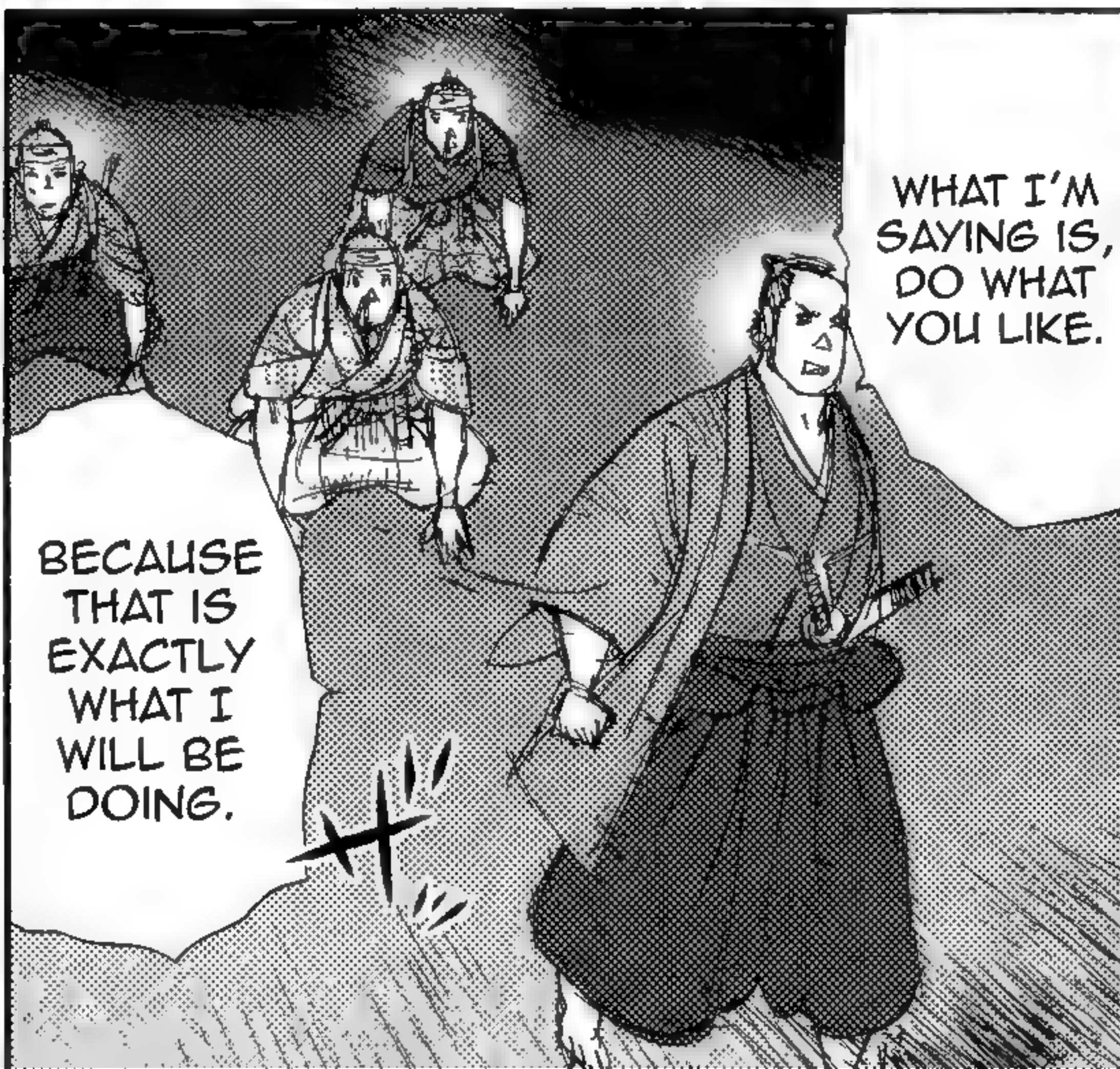
PERMIT US
TO TRAVEL
WITH YOU!

OH
LORD...



YOU LOT
HAVE TO
HAVE FAITH
IN YOUR-
SELVES AND
DECIDE.

WHY
ARE YOU
ASKING
ME FOR
PERMIS-
SION?



BECAUSE
THAT IS
EXACTLY
WHAT I
WILL BE
DOING.

WHAT I'M
SAYING IS,
DO WHAT
YOU LIKE.



CAN YOU
BECOME
MASURAO
AS YOU
ARE NOW?



**UNDER-
STAND?**

**HOWEVER,
IF YOU CAN'T
DEAL WITH THE
CHALLENGE,
I WILL BE
TAKING YOUR
LIFE WITH NO
COMPLAINTS.**



**LORD
KAIEDA...**

L-



**YES
SIR!**

**HOW LONG
ARE YOU GOING
TO BE ON YOUR
KNEES FOR, STOP
MESSING AROUND
AND FOLLOW ME!**

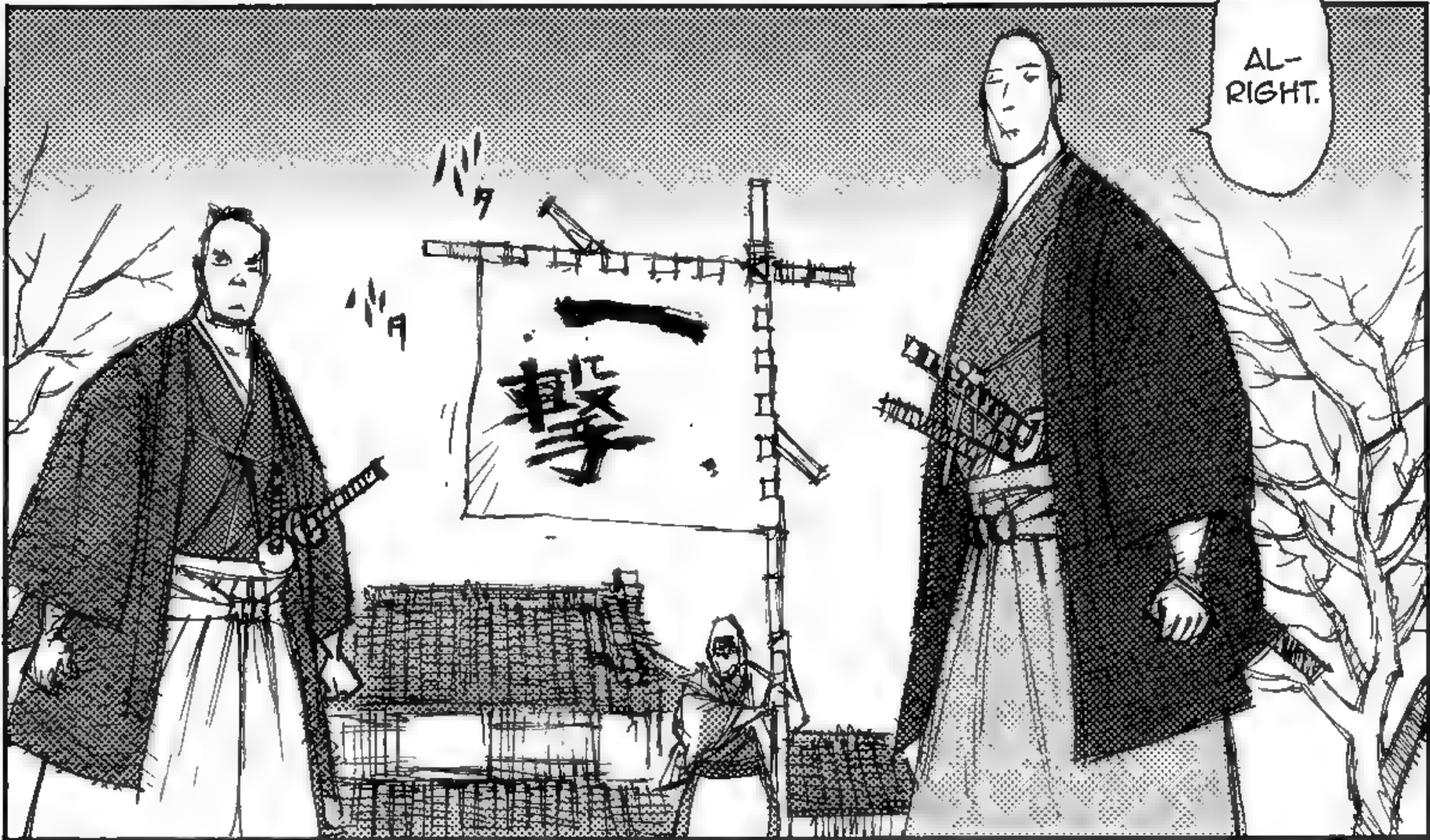
SFX:
Awwooo

CHAPTER 26: THE EVE OF THE RAID





SFX:
flutter
flutter





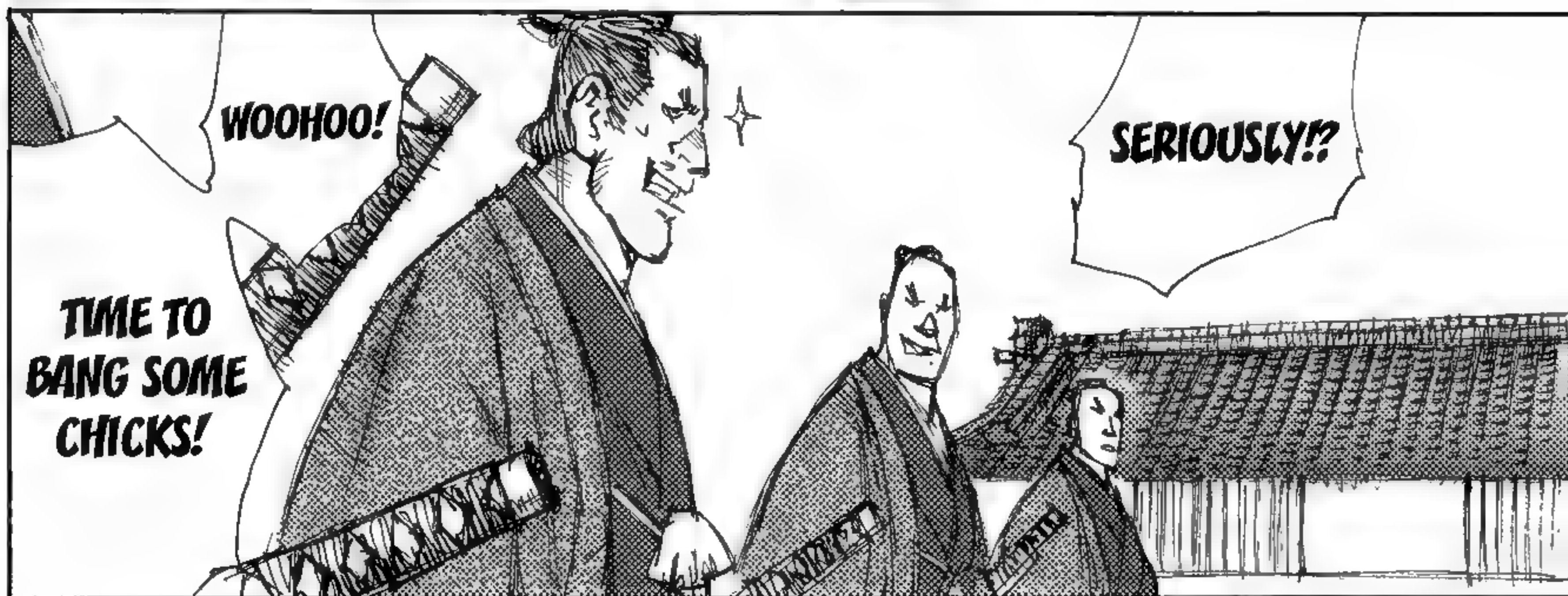
GO PLAY
WITH THE
GIRLS
FROM
IMURA'S!

I WILL
ALLOW
YOU TO
GO OUT-
SIDE.



I WON'T
BE TOO
HARSH
ON YOU.

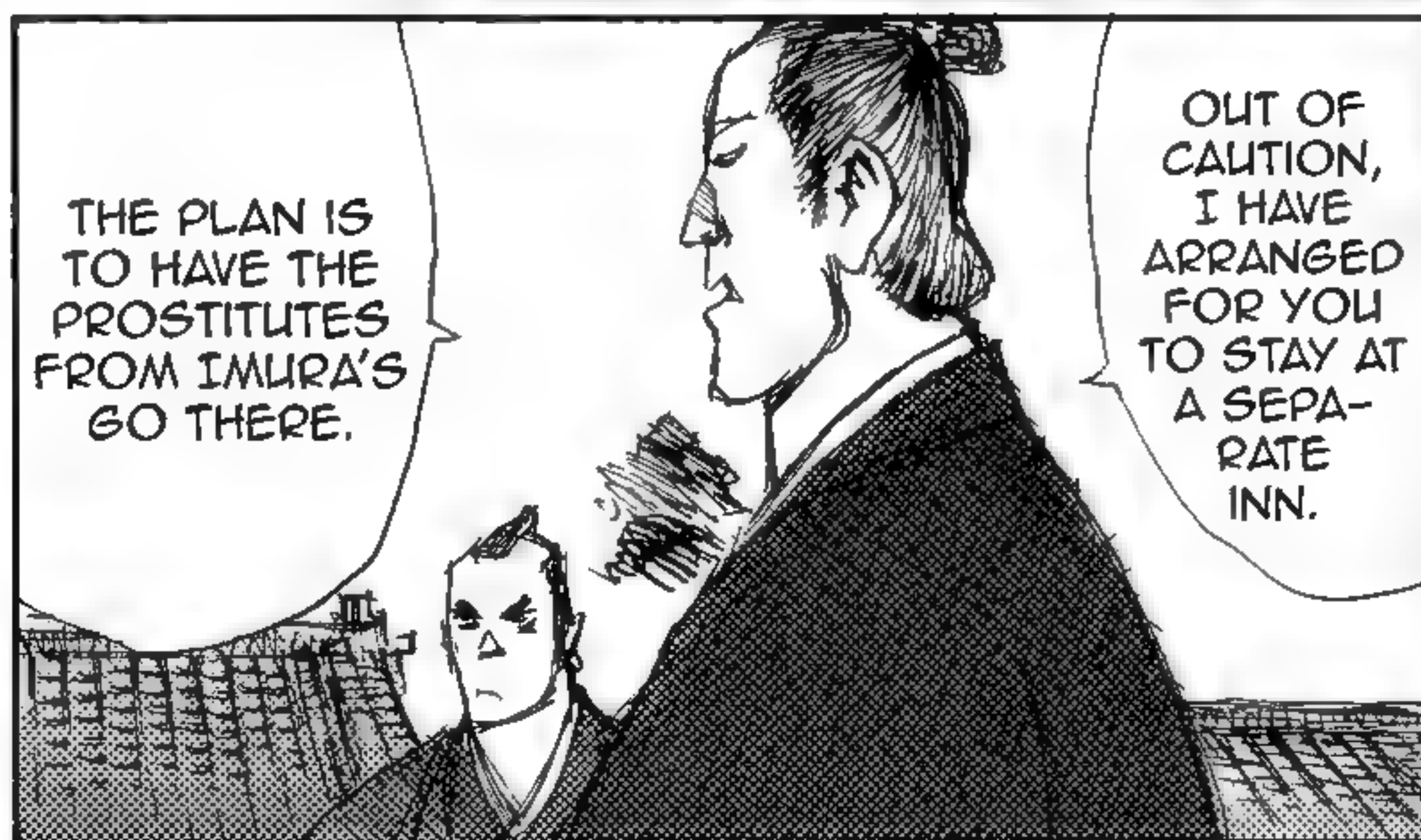
YOU HAVE
FREE TIME
UNTIL THEN.



WOOHOO!

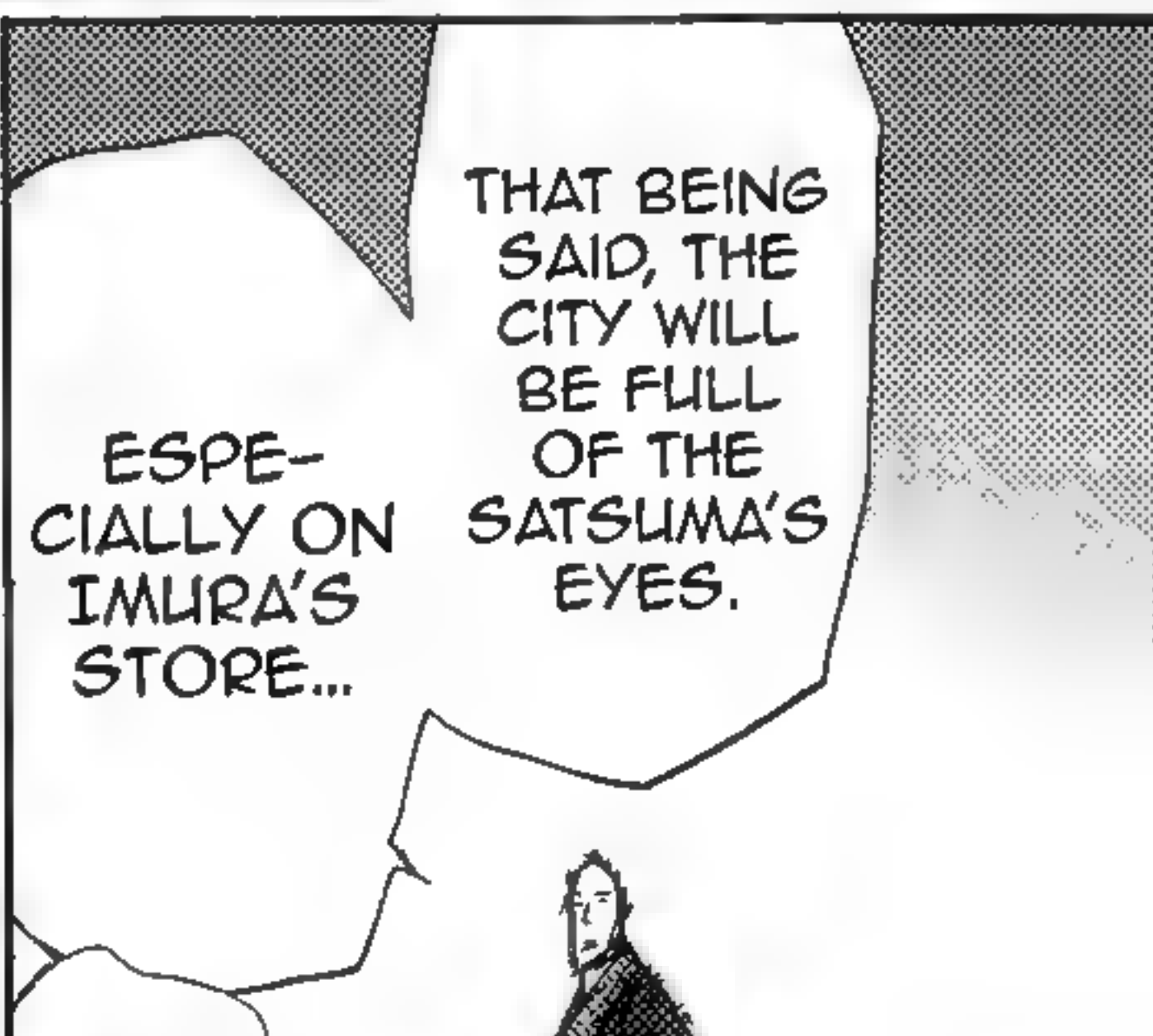
TIME TO
BANG SOME
CHICKS!

SERIOUSLY!?



THE PLAN IS
TO HAVE THE
PROSTITUTES
FROM IMURA'S
GO THERE.

OUT OF
CAUTION,
I HAVE
ARRANGED
FOR YOU
TO STAY AT
A SEPA-
RATE
INN.



THAT BEING
SAID, THE
CITY WILL
BE FULL
OF THE
SATSUMA'S
EYES.

ESPE-
CIALLY ON
IMURA'S
STORE...

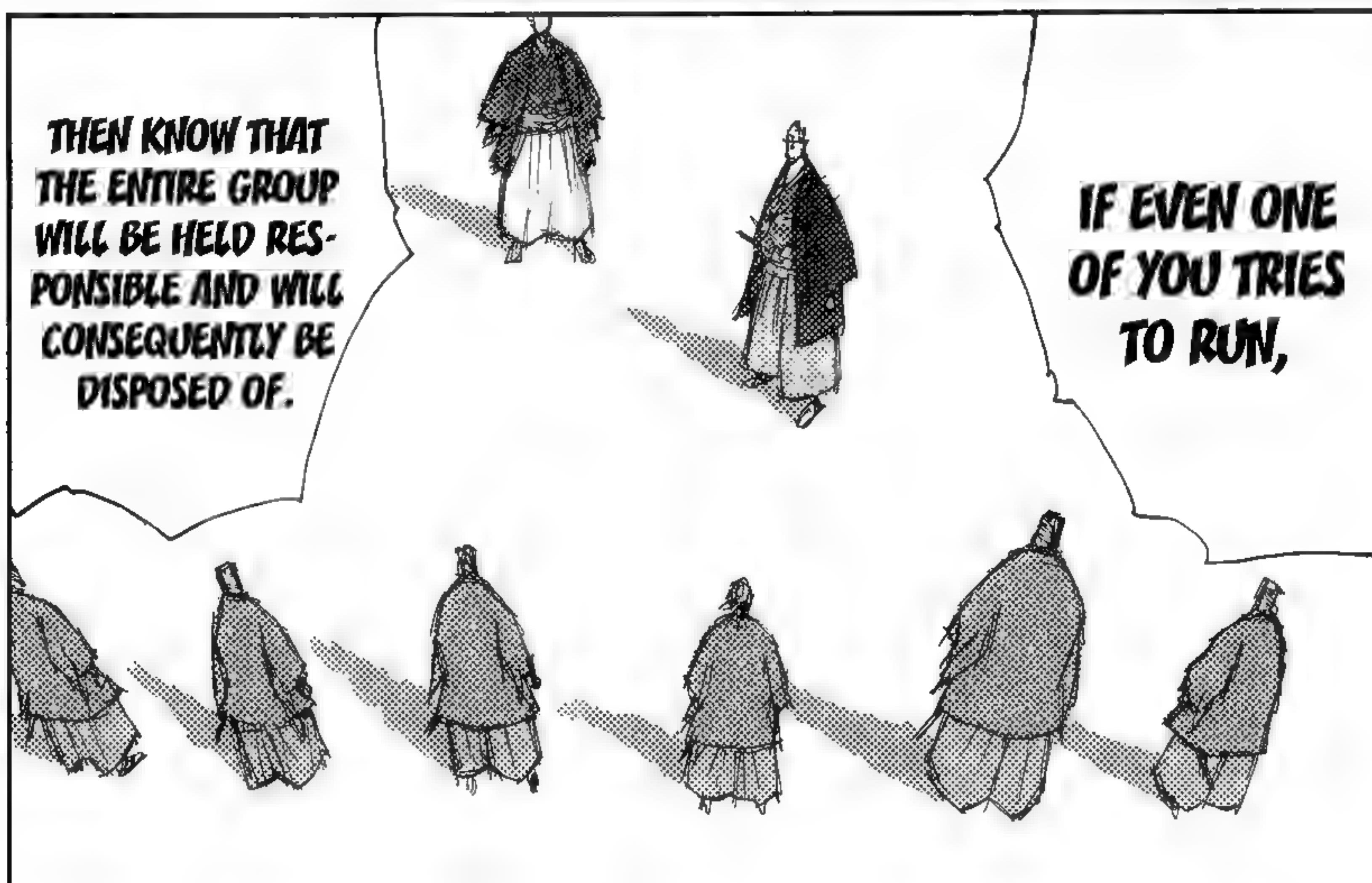
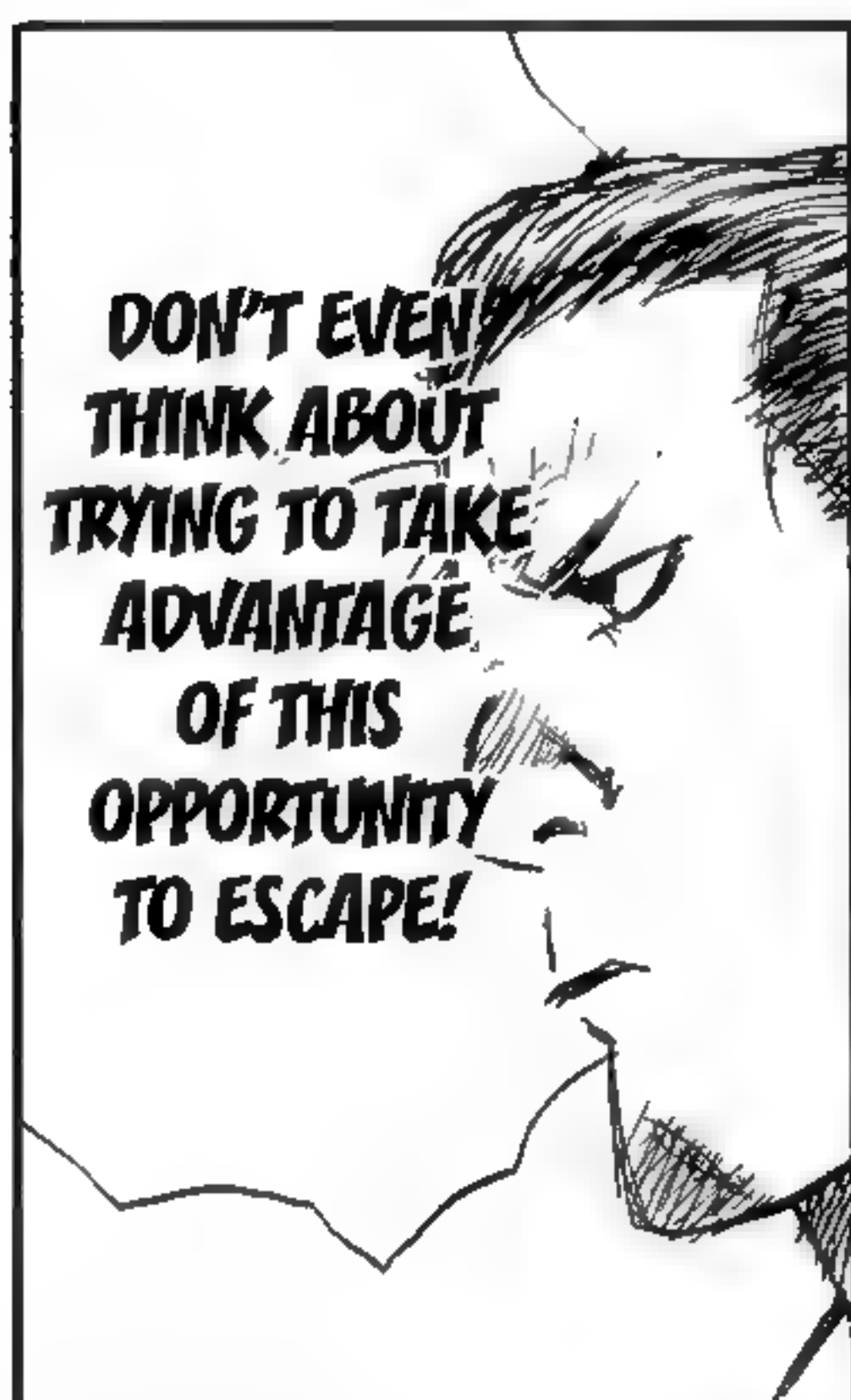


HE'S SO
SMART.

AMAZING,
LORD
SHIMADA.



UH...
THAT
COMPLI-
CATES
THINGS...





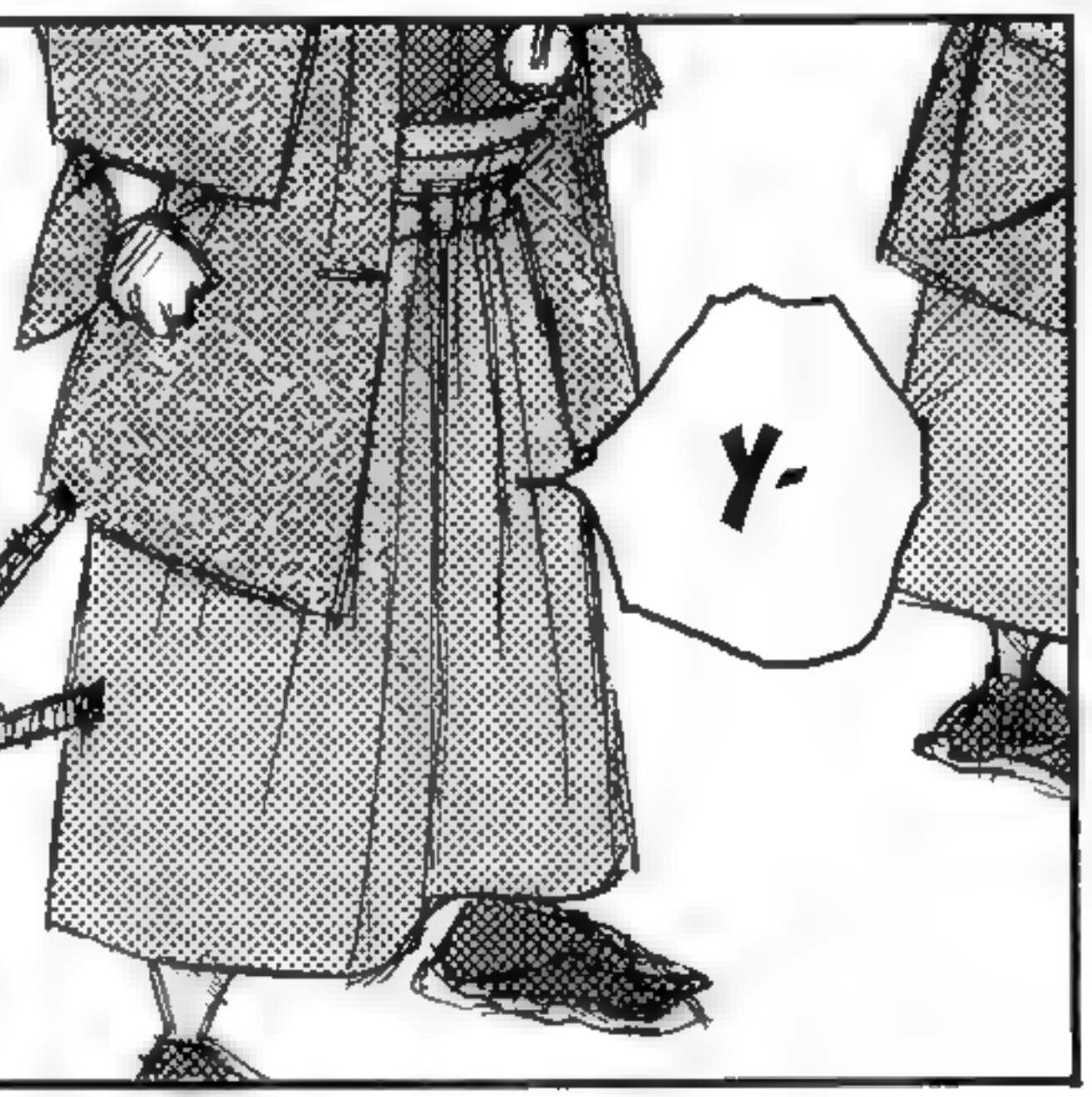
**UNDER-
STOOD!?**



**USHI-
GOROU!**



YES!



Y-



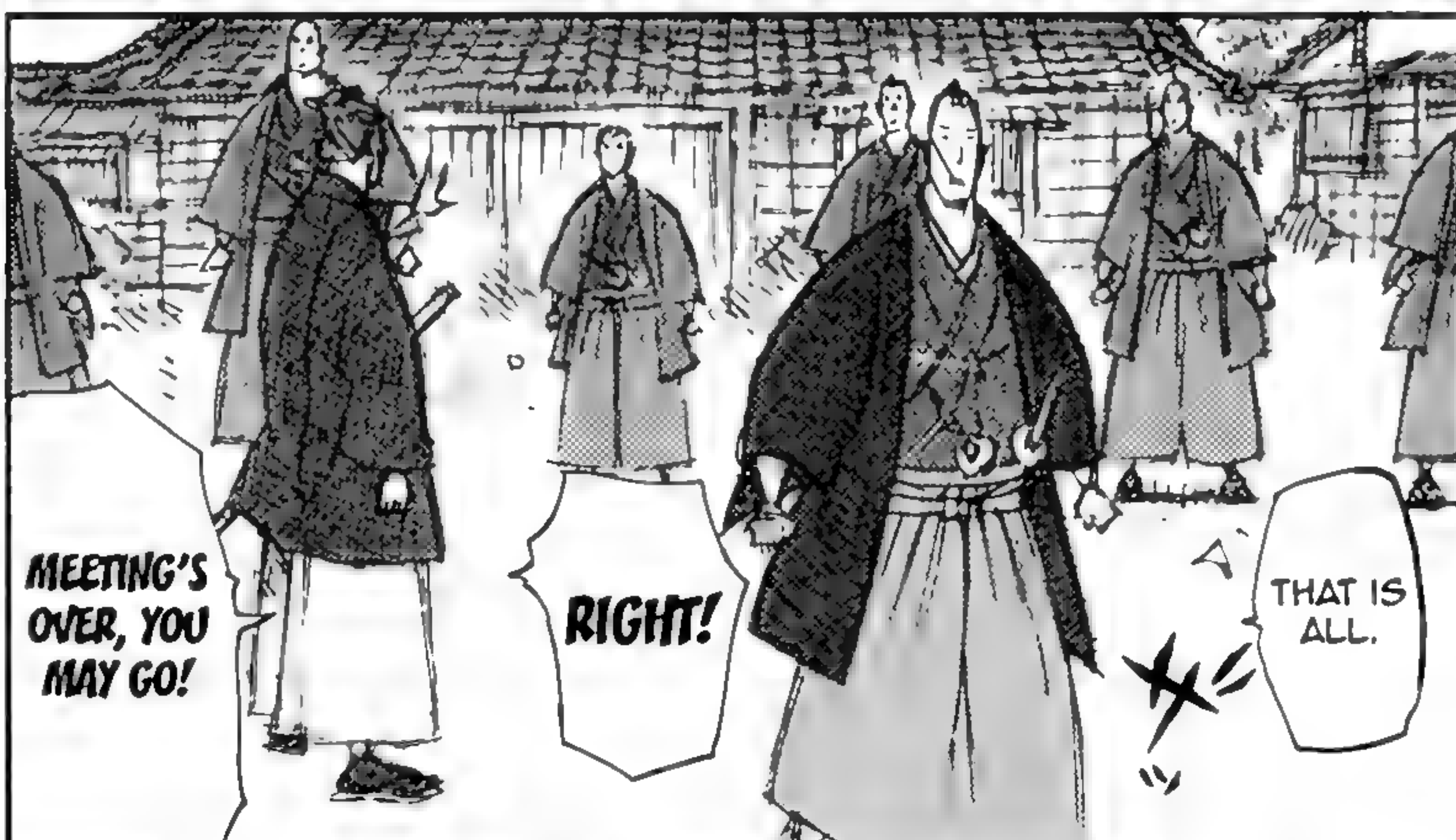
**FOR
TAKING
CARE OF
EVERY-
ONE.**

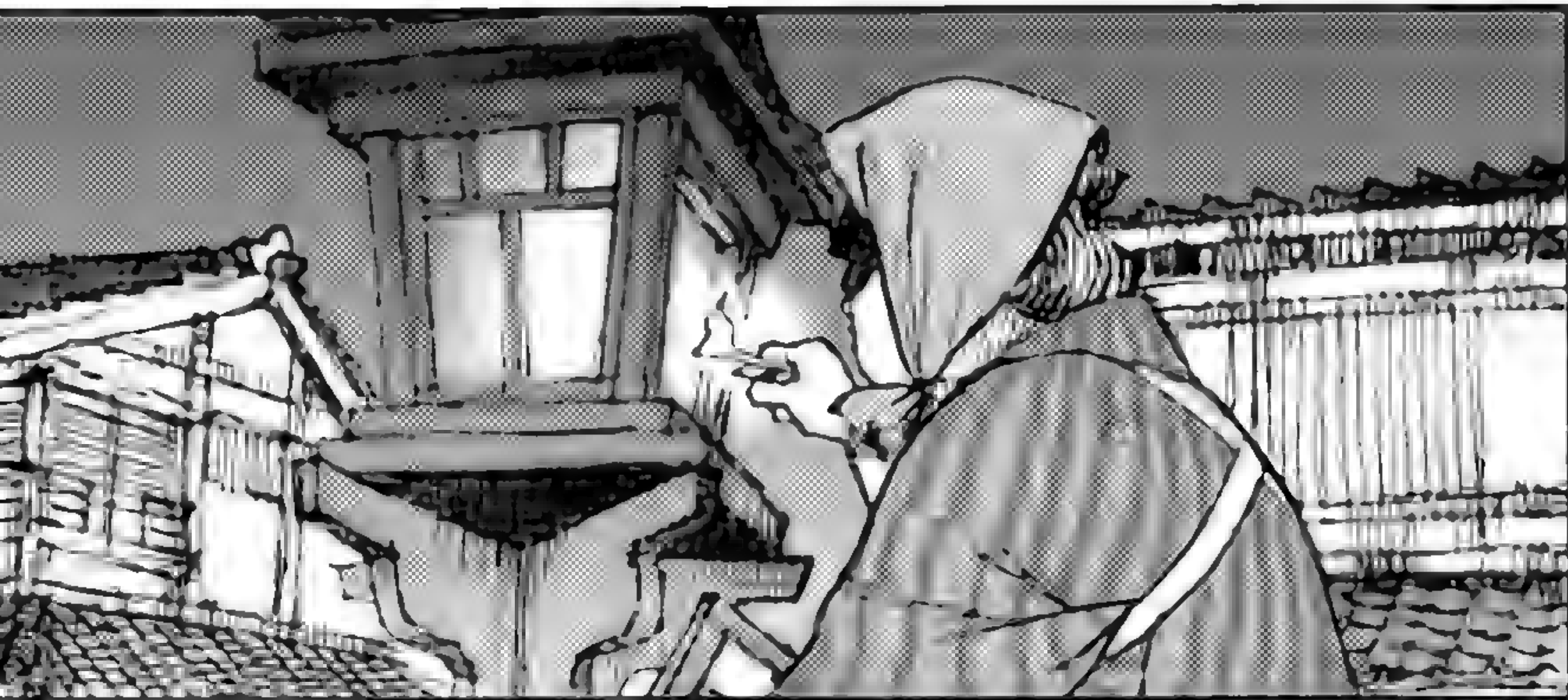
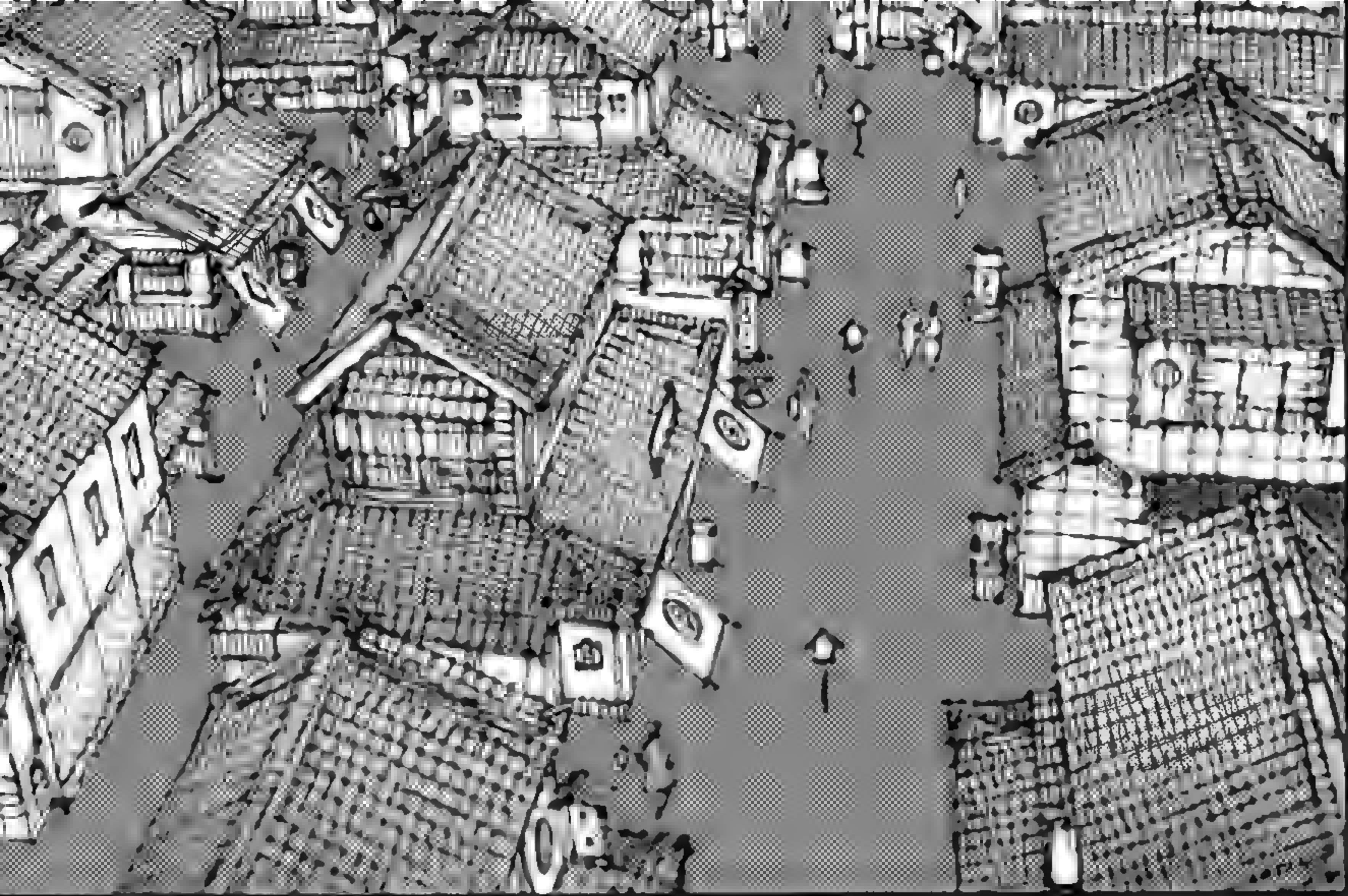
**YOU'LL BE
RESPON-
SIBLE**



**IF EVEN
ONE PERSON
DOESN'T
COME BACK,
EVERYONE IS
PUNISHED.
THEREFORE...**

**I'LL SAY
IT ONCE
MORE.**







**LONG TIME
NO SEE!**

**THANK
YOU FOR
WAITING!**



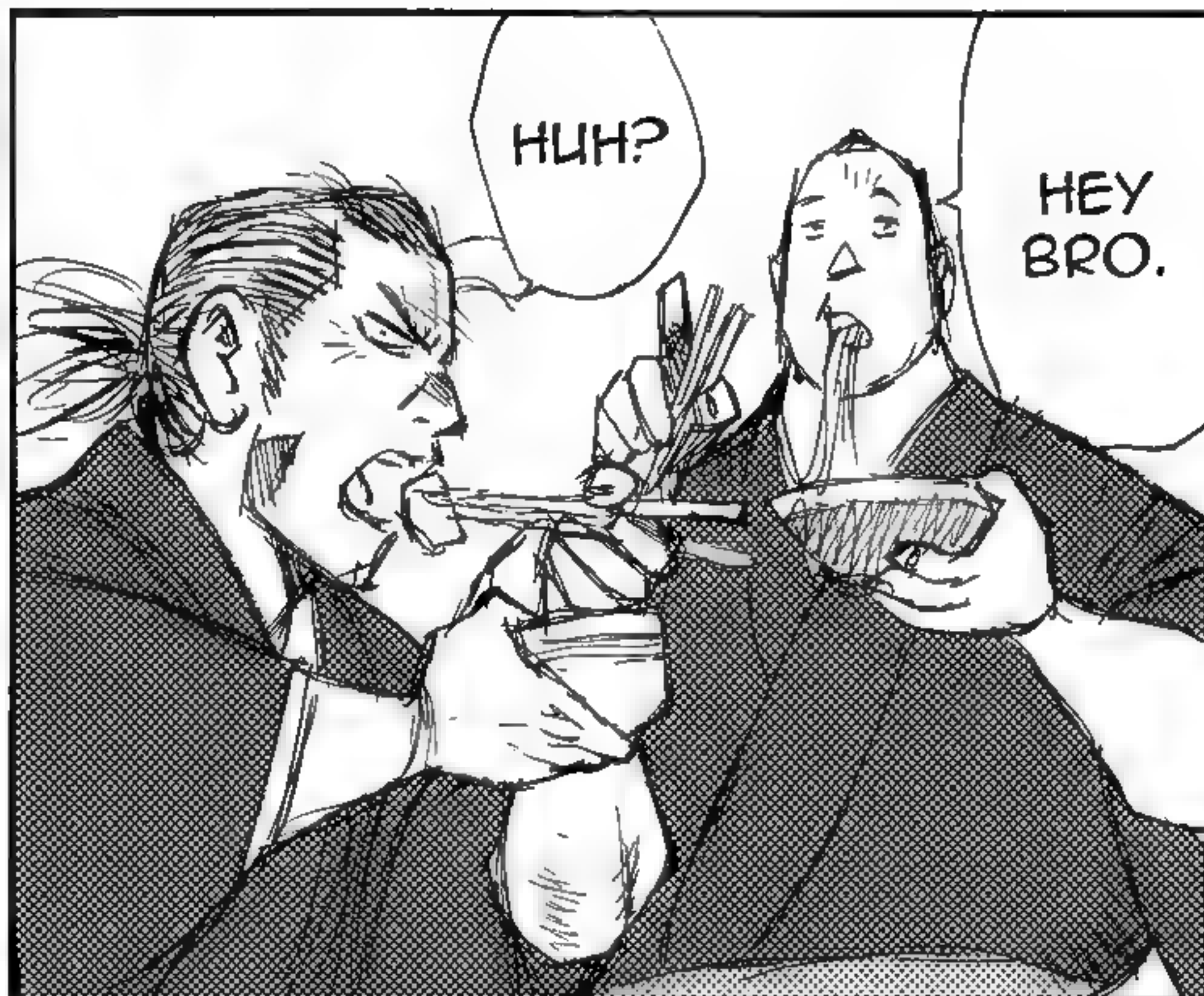
**ALCOHOL!
GET SOME SAKE
OVER HERE!**

**LET'S GET
THIS PARTY
GOING WITH
SOME BOOZE!**

**THEY'VE
FINALLY
COME!**



**THEY'RE HERE
THEY'RE HERE
THEY'RE HERE
THEY'RE HERE!**



HUH?

HEY
BRO.



MR. USHI-
GOROU.

IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE.

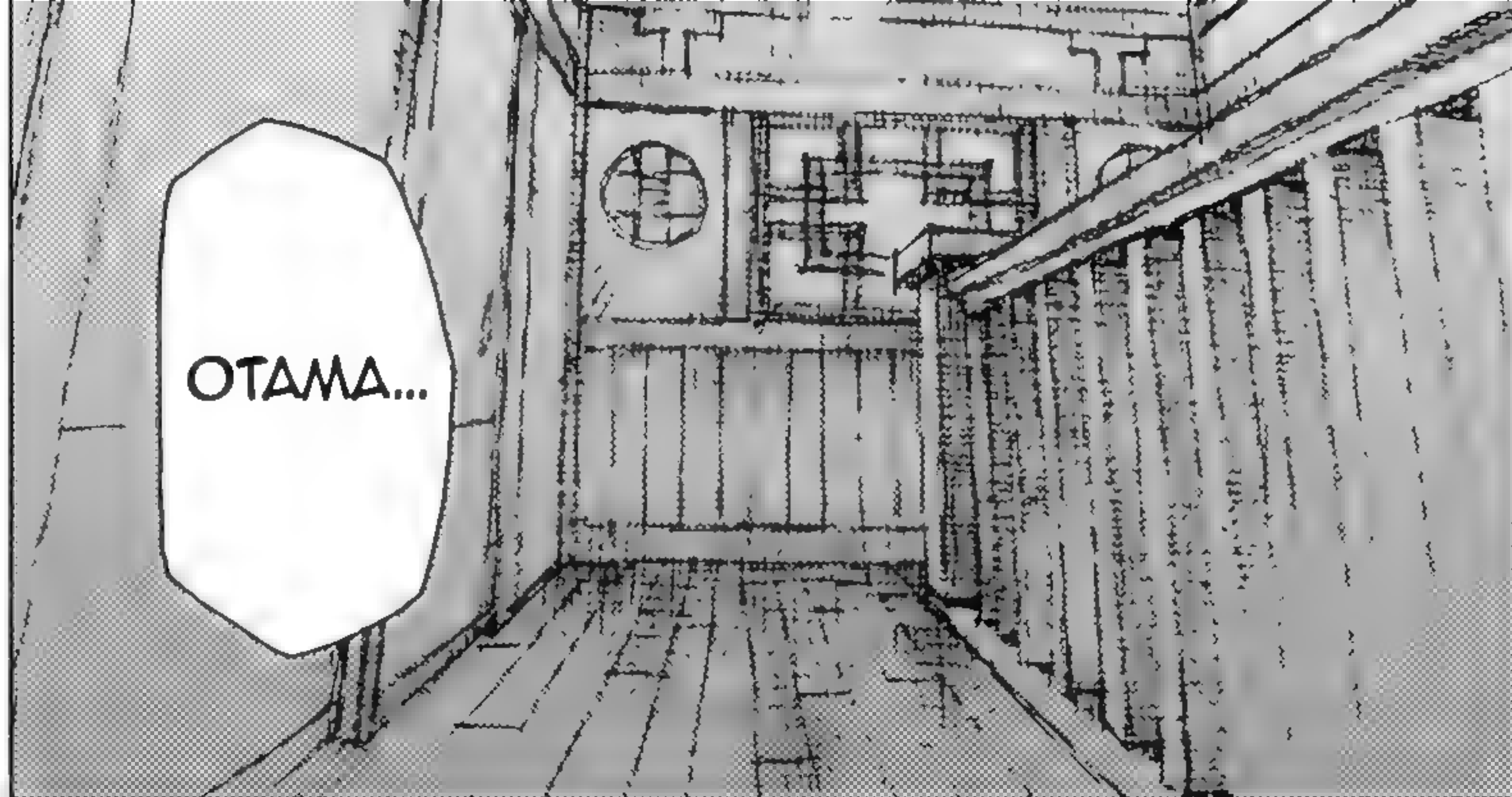
SFX:
smile



**SHUT UP!
LET ME DRINK
A LITTLE BIT
MORE FIRST!**

DON'T WORRY
ABOUT ME
BRO, THE
TWO OF YOU
SHOULD GO
UPSTAIRS
AND TALK.

IF YOU
TAKE TOO
LONG... YOU
WON'T HAVE
ANYMORE
TIME.



OTAMA...



AND ENDED
UP SELLIN'
HER OFF
FOR NOTHIN'
TO A CHEAP
HOTEL IN
SAIGOKU...

THE BOSS
SAID THAT
SHE WAS
USELESS,

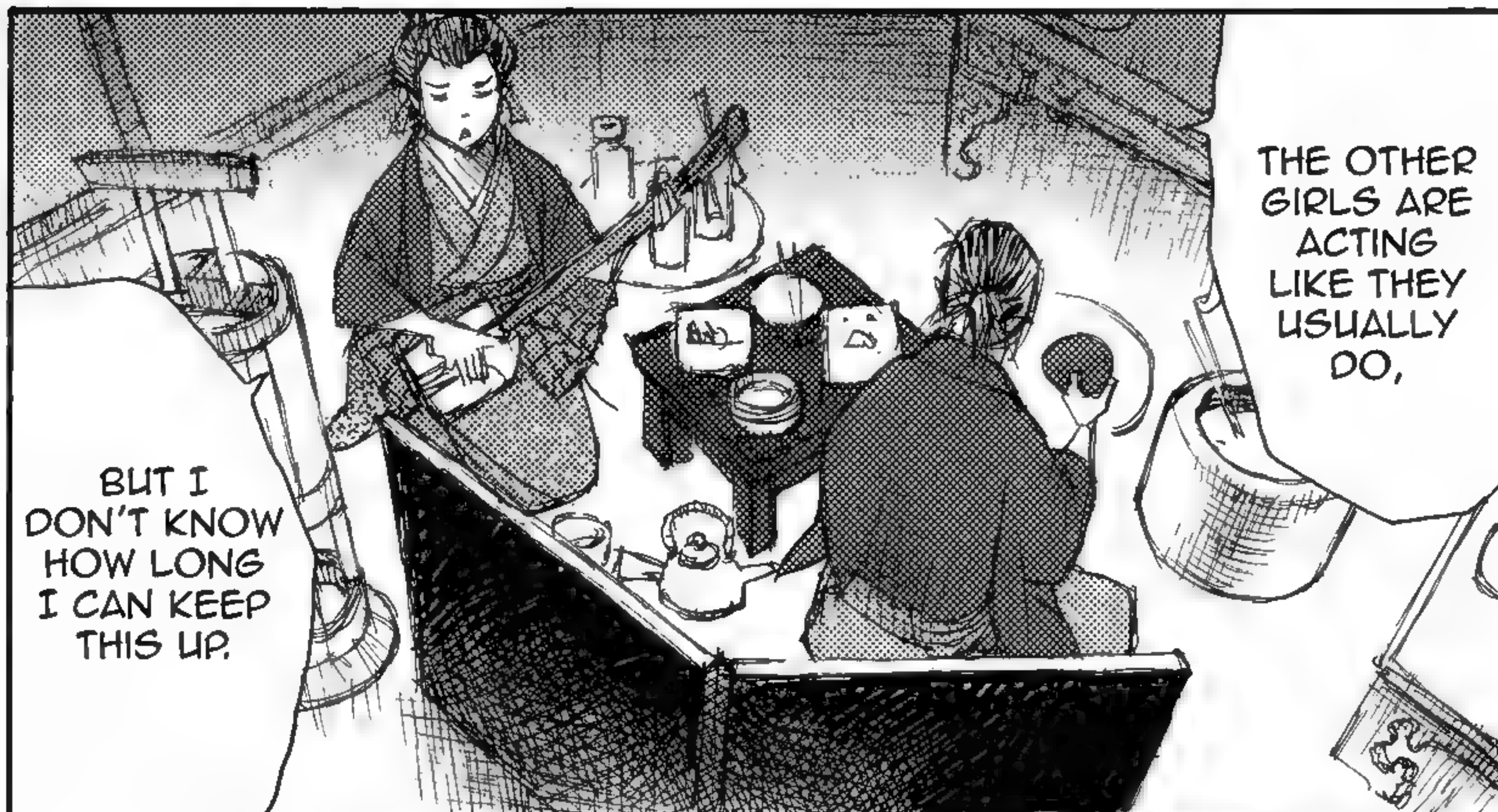
WELL...
EVER SINCE
SHE WAS
BROUGHT
BACK, SHE
HAD BEEN
FEELING
UNWELL...



SHE WAS
SUCH A
LOVELY
PERSON,
ALWAYS
LOOKIN'
OUT FOR
EVERYONE.

Krtt
I COULDN'T
EVEN GUESS
HOW SHE'S
DOIN'.

SFX:
twang



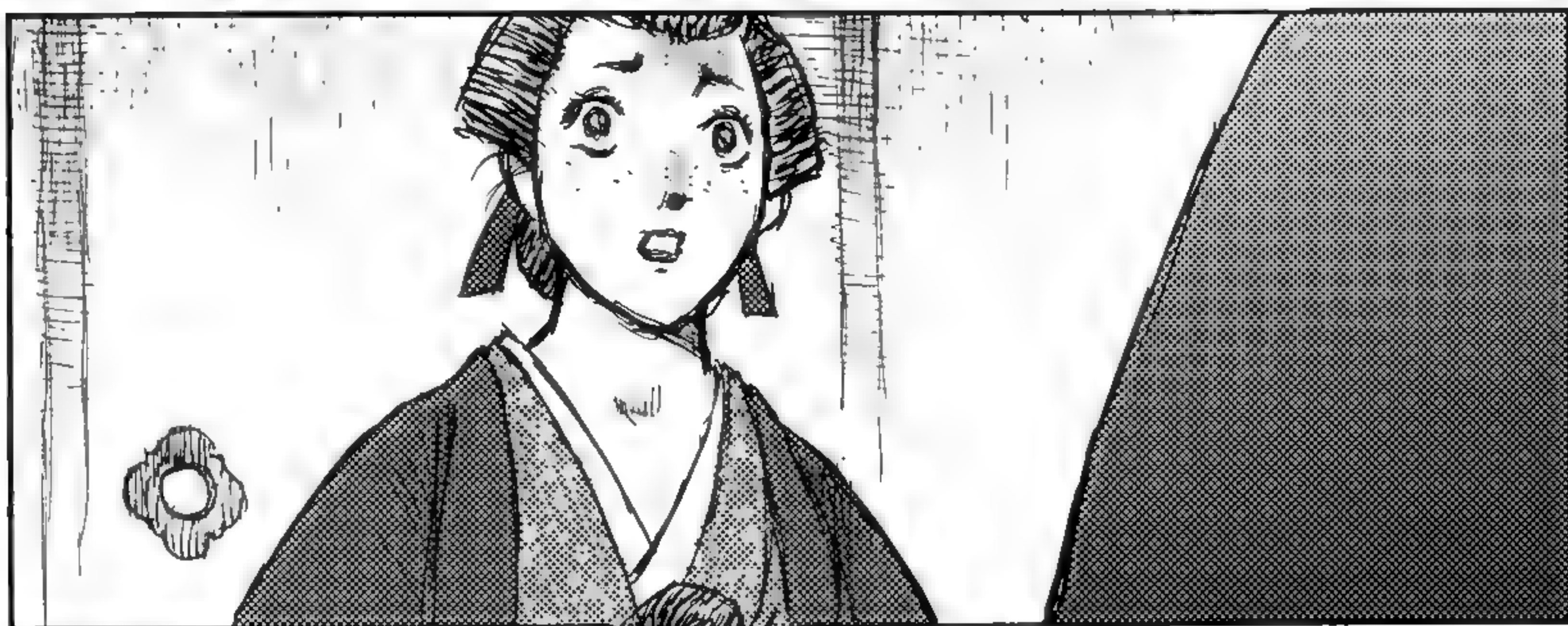


MEANS
I MIGHT
NOT COME
BACK
ALIVE.



CRITICAL
SITUA-
TION?

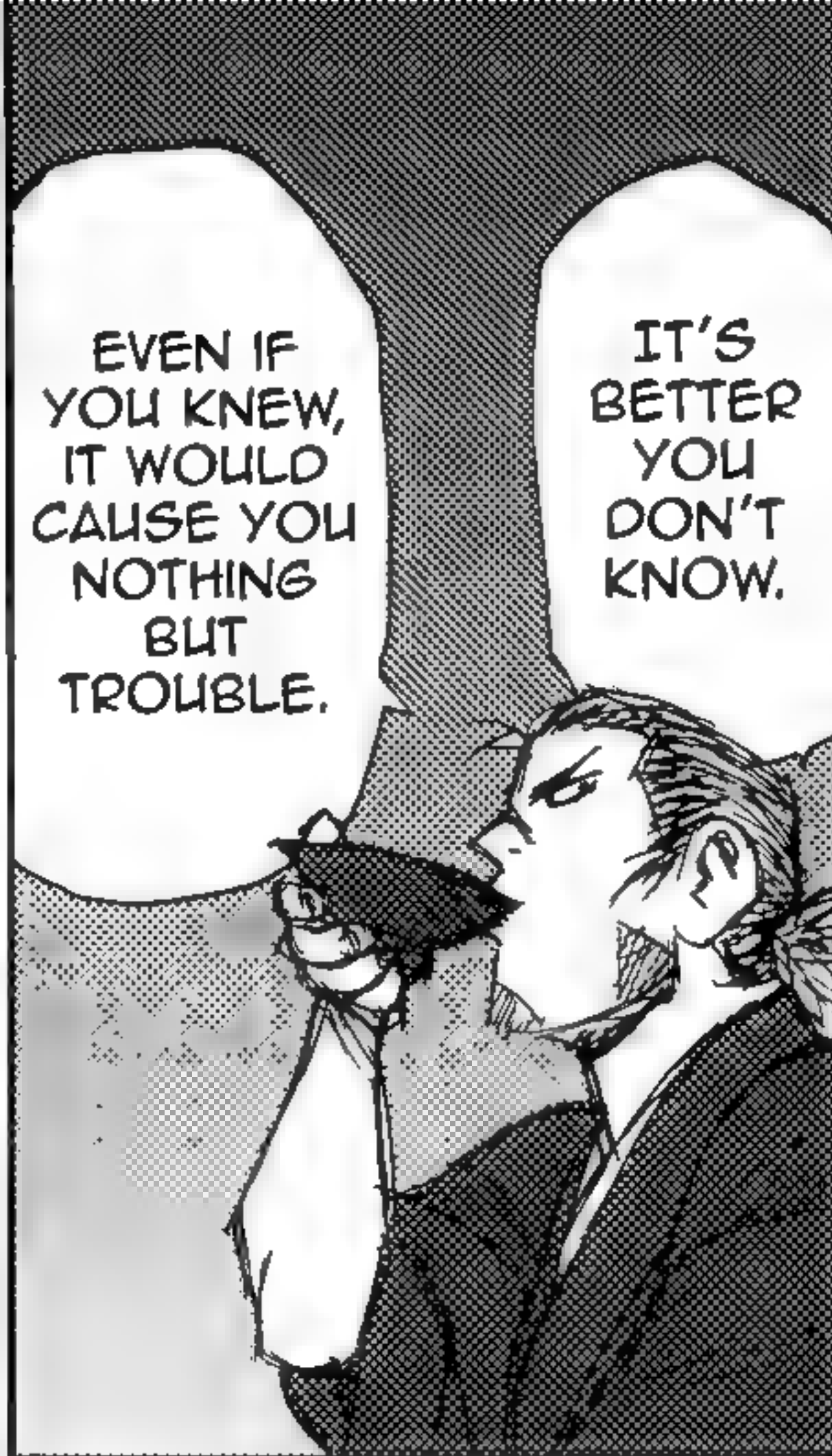
I'M GOING
TO BE IN A
CRITICAL
SITUATION
SOON...



I KNOW YOU
HAD TO FIGHT
WITH THOSE
SATSUMA
SAMURAI...

W-WHY DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
GONNA
DIE...?

MR. USHI-
GOROU,
JUST WHAT
SORT OF
WORK
ARE YOU
DOING...?





SEE
YA.



GUWAH!

SFX:
CRACK



W-WHAT
WAS THAT
FOR!?

OH
FUCK!



YOU CAN'T
JUST LEAVE
LIKE THAT!



SFX:
Bang,
Crash



**YOU NEED TO
LOOK AT ME
PROPERLY!**



**I'M NOT
SETTLIN'
FOR THAT!**

**I'M NOT
GOING TO BE
SATISFIED
WITH JUST
THAT!**



**WHY ARE YOU
ACTIN' SO
FLUSTERED!?**

**STOP IT,
YOU
IDIOT!**



HEEEY!

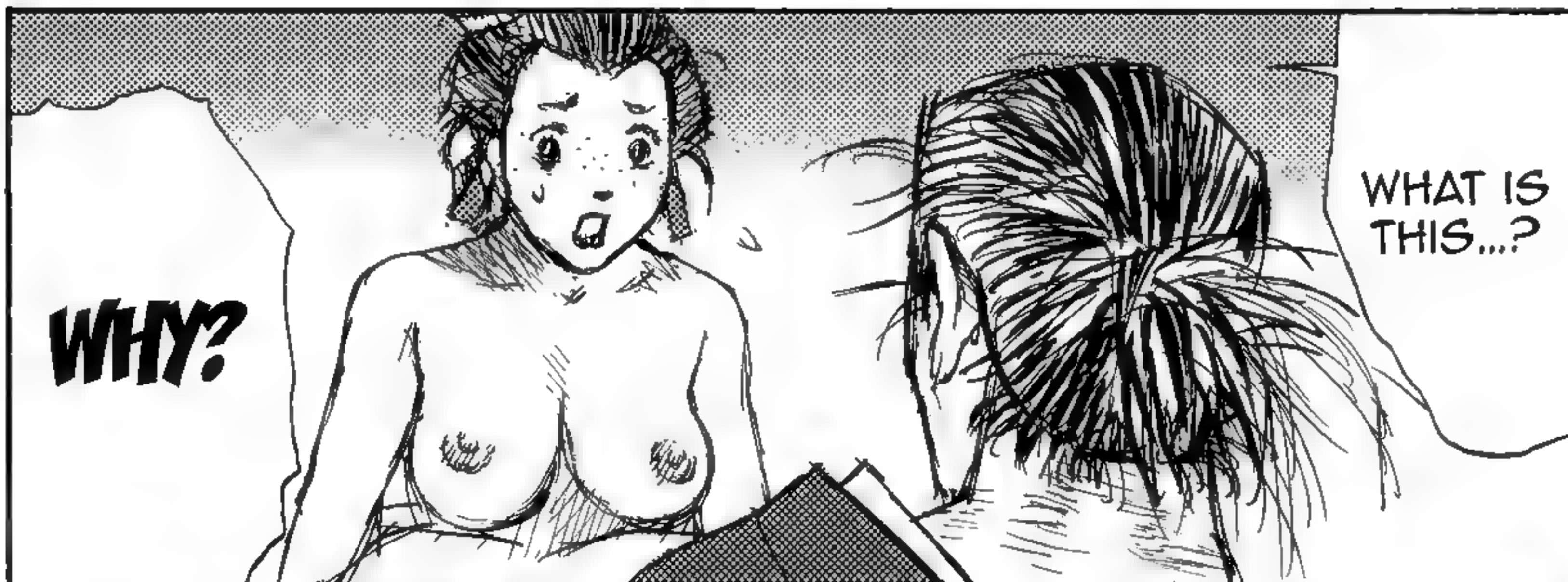
**D-DON'T
TOUCH ME,
STOP IT...**

WAIT...

SFX:
draaaag,
boing

SFX:
Right to
clockwise:
grab,
draag,
bang

SFX: Huff,
huff, huff



WHY?

WHAT IS THIS...?

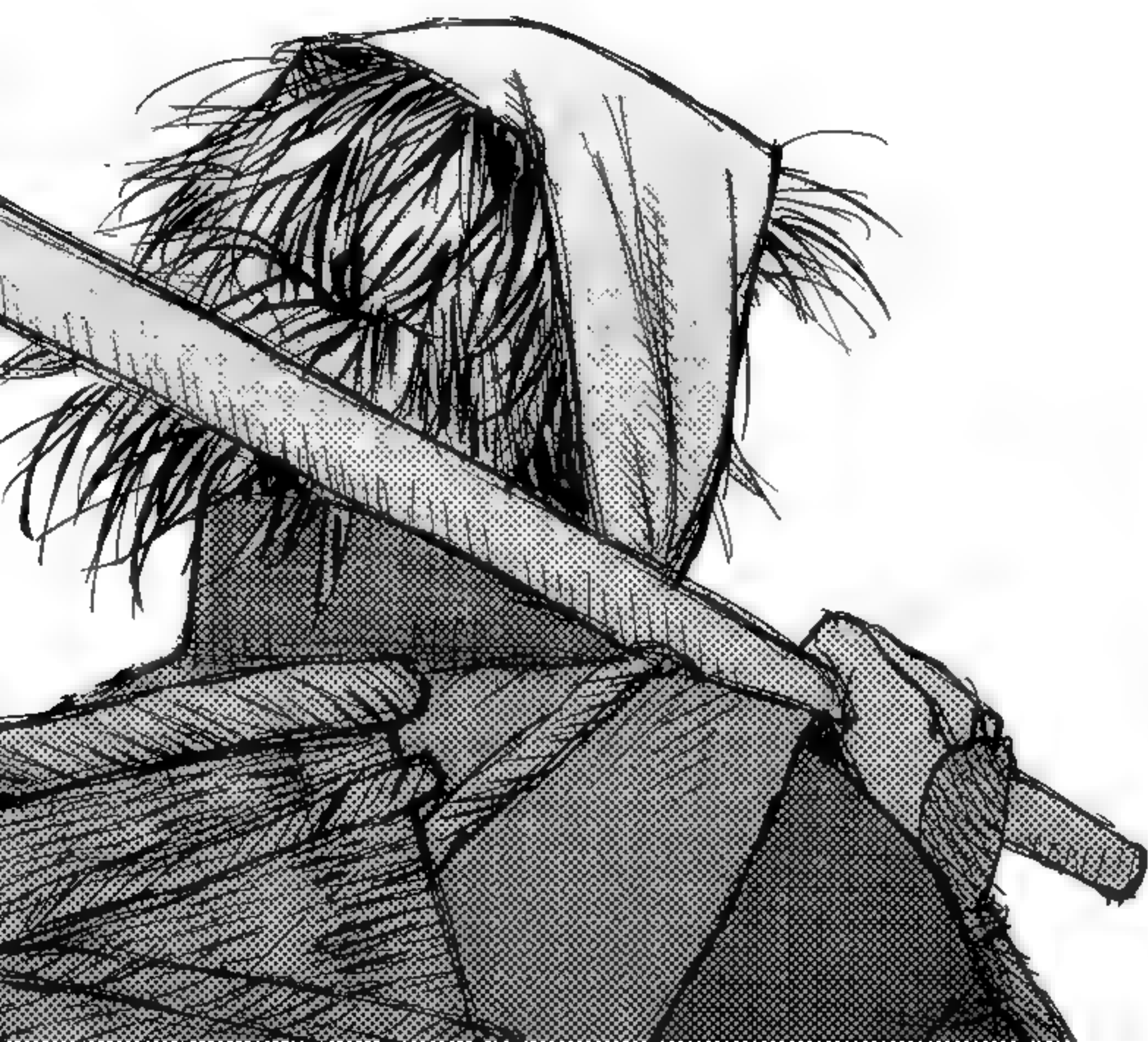


NO
MATTER
WHAT I
DO, IT
NEVER
GETS
UP.

I CAN'T...
REALLY
USE MY
THING
NOW.



THAT'S
WHY I
TOLD
YOU TO
STOP.



WELL...

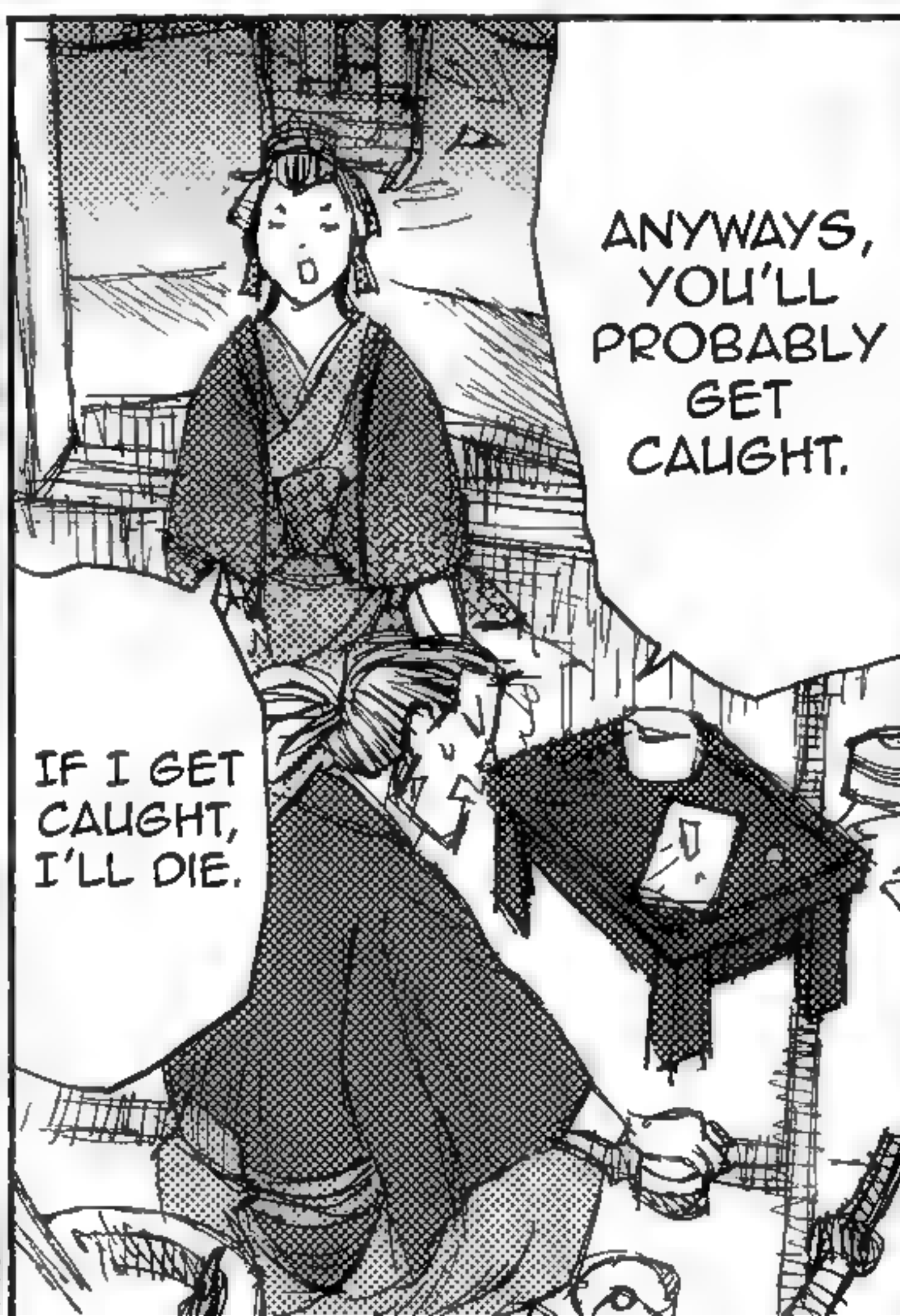
SINCE
WHEN?

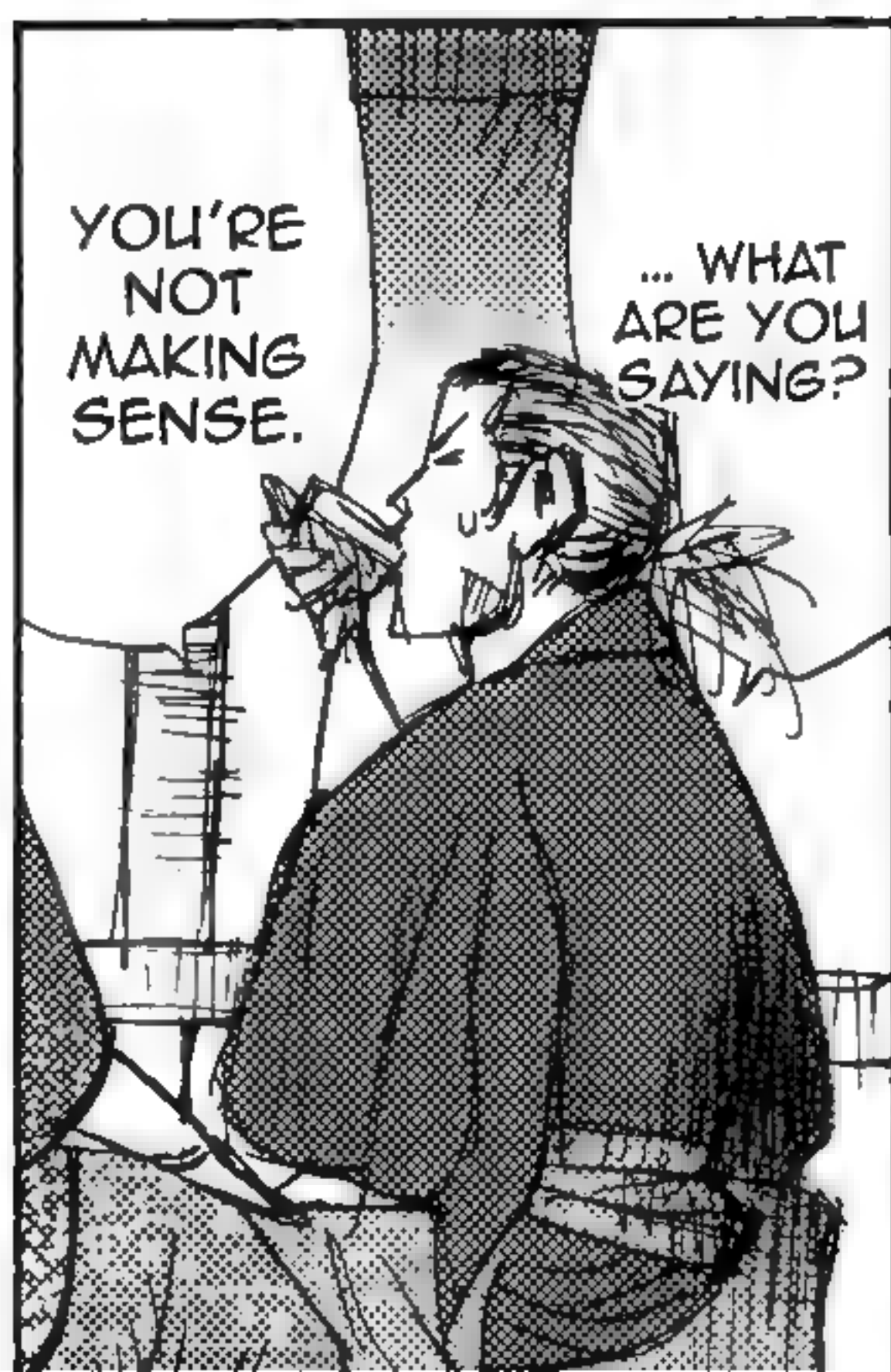




SFX:
gulp







SFX:
smile

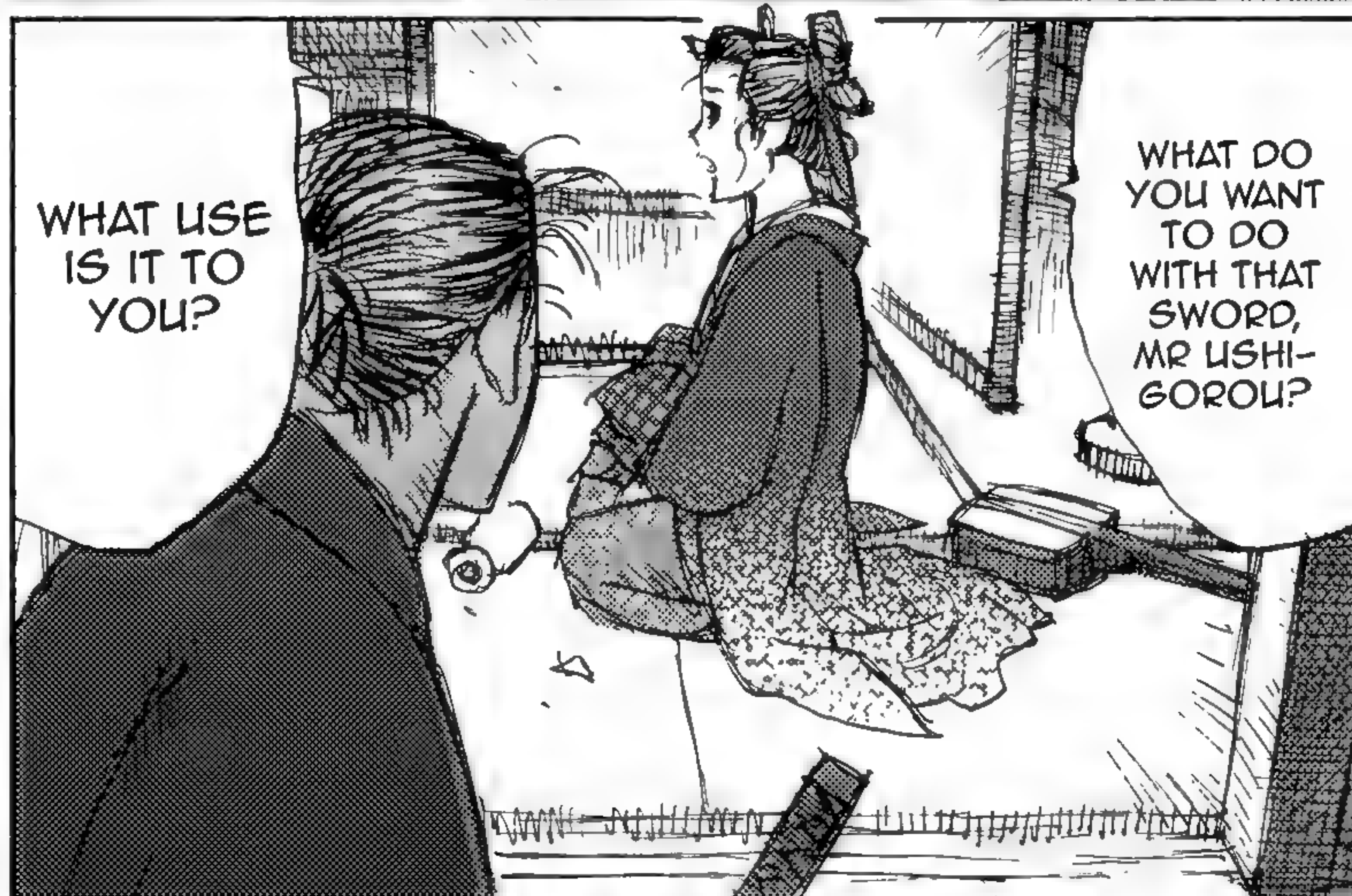


I DON'T
REALLY
GET IT,
BUT...



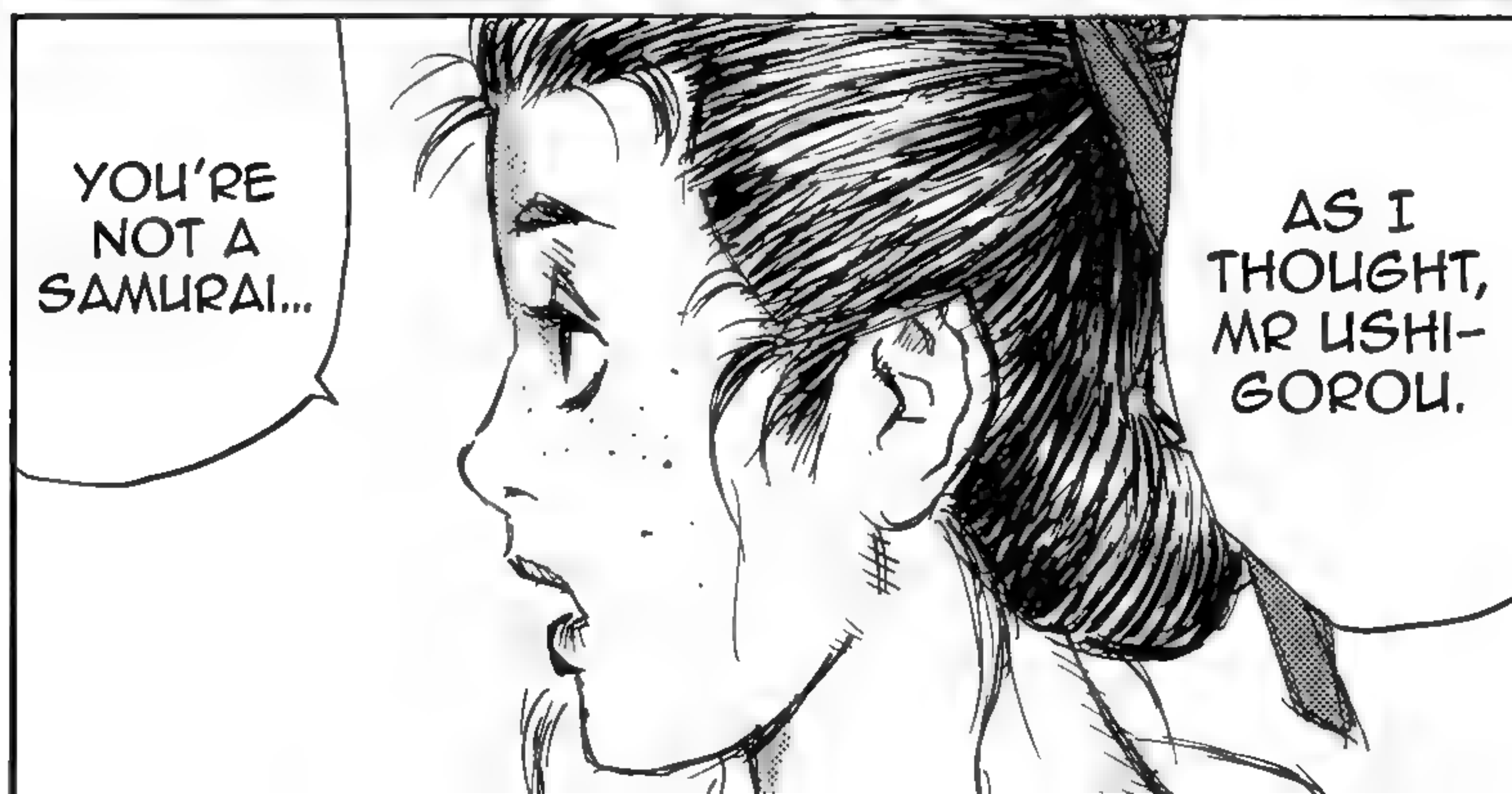
**I'M
OFF!**

SFX:
stand



WHAT USE
IS IT TO
YOU?

WHAT DO
YOU WANT
TO DO
WITH THAT
SWORD,
MR USHI-
GOROU?



YOU'RE
NOT A
SAMURAI...

AS I
THOUGHT,
MR USHI-
GOROU.

SFX:
crack,
clatter



WHAT ARE
YOU GOING
ON ABOUT?!

WHAT
ON EARTH
WOULD YOU
KNOW?!



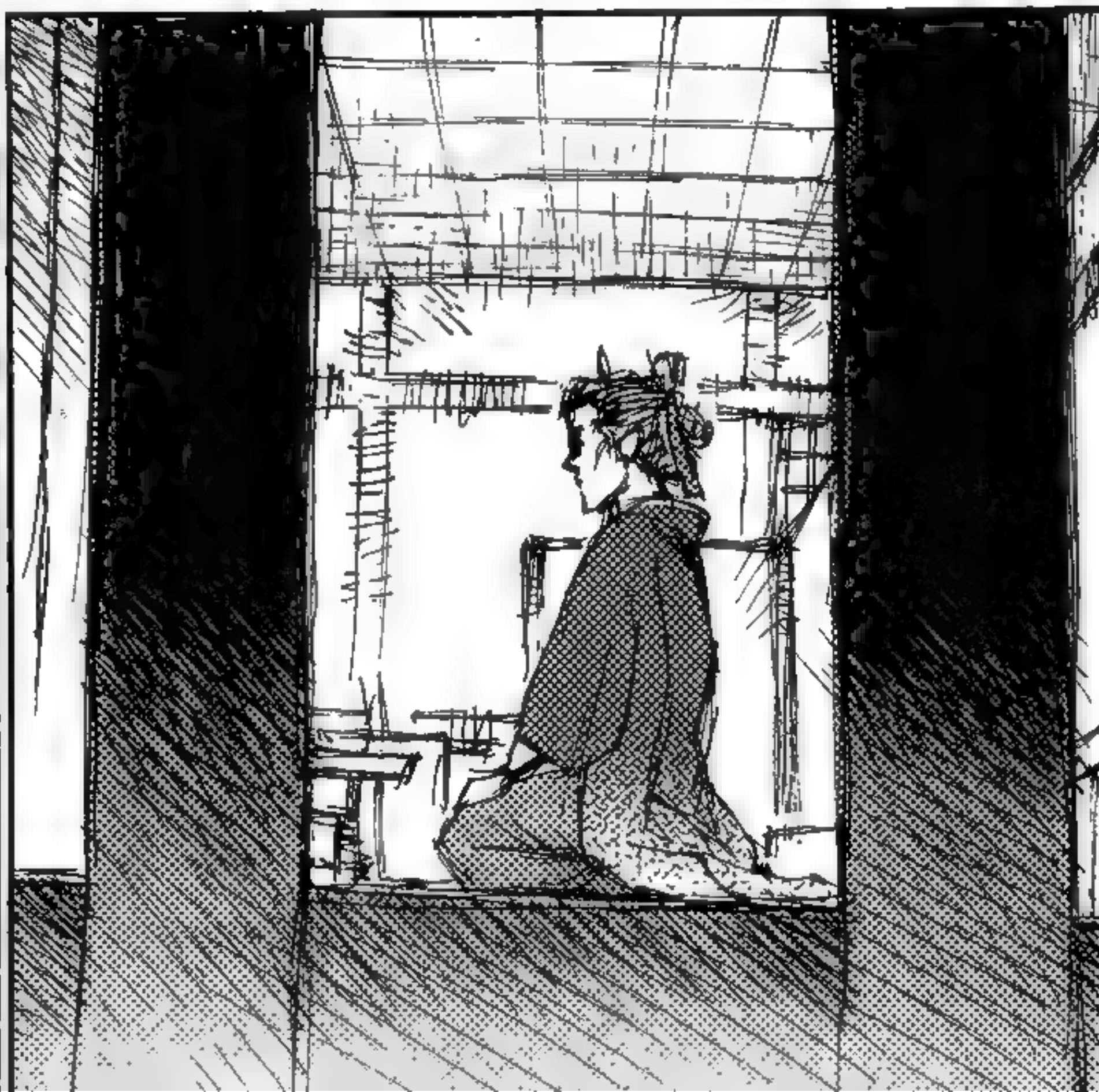
A-ANY-
WAY,

A SAMURAI
WOULDN'T
BRING ALONG
A GIRL...

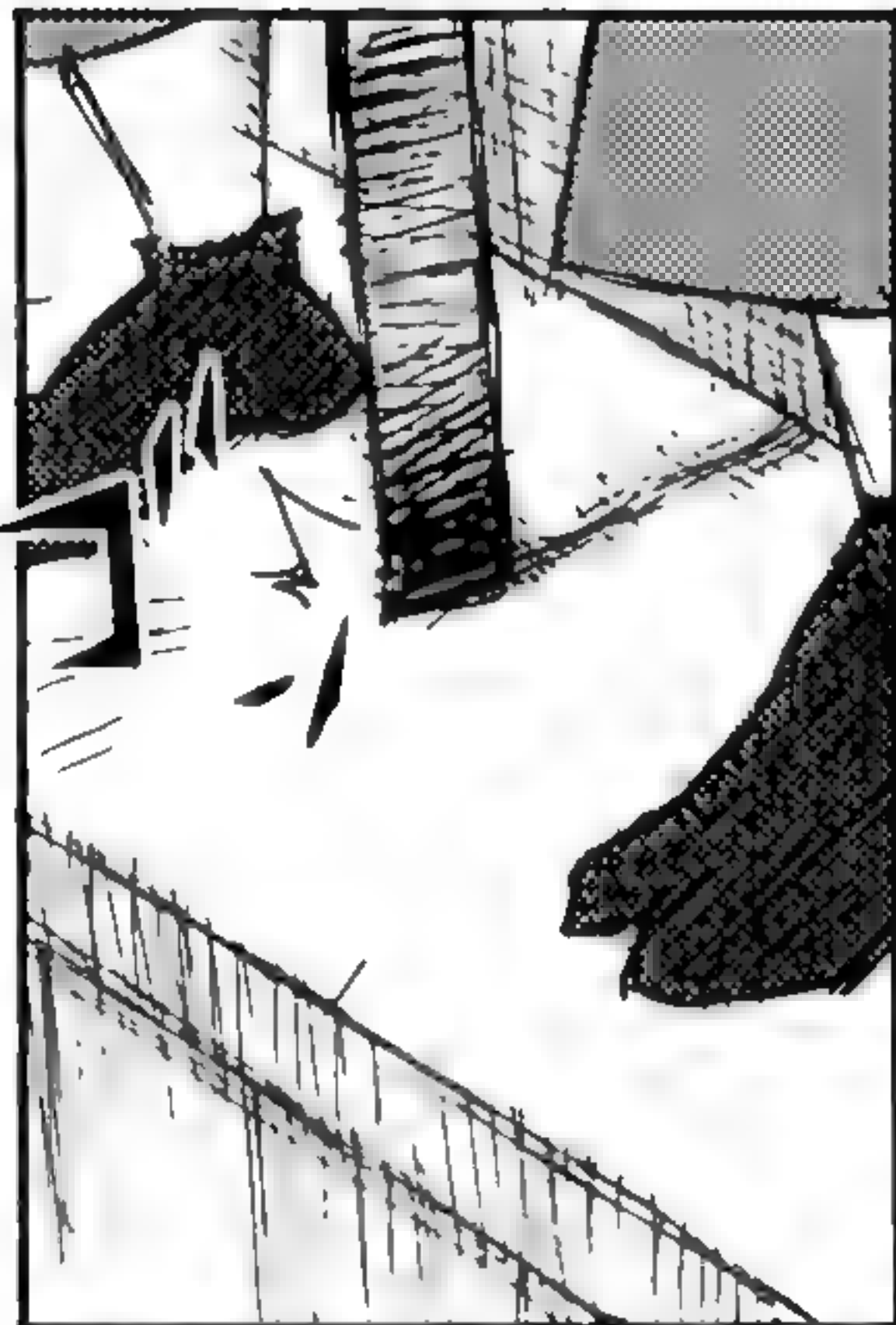
SFX:
step,
step



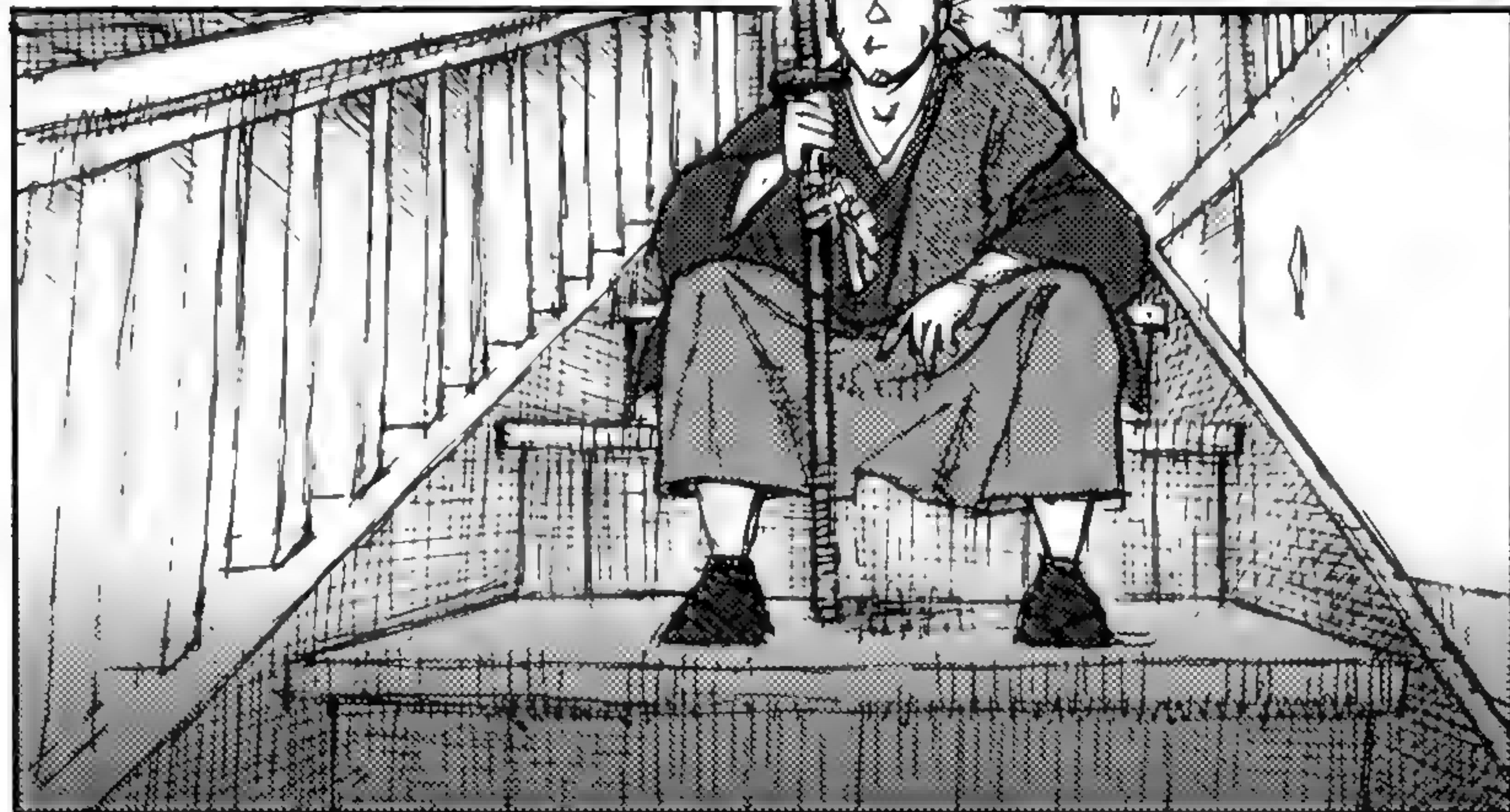
TCH.



SFX:
bang




SFX: left
to right,
Gyaha
hahaha,
beben,
shatter



IF I WANT
TO RUN,
IT HAS TO
BE NOW.

NO
MATTER
HOW I
THINK
ABOUT
THIS...






I CAN'T HELP
BUT THINK
HE'S URGING
US TO RUN
AWAY.

BESIDES,
IF SHIMADA
IS SUDDENLY
LETTING US
GO OUTSIDE,

IF
THAT'S
THE
CASE...



FOR TAKING
CARE OF
EVERYONE.

YOU'LL BE
RESPON-
SIBLE



THERE'S
NO
MISTAKE.



TO RUN
AWAY
WITH ME.

BASICALLY,
I HAVE TO
PERSUADE
EVERYONE

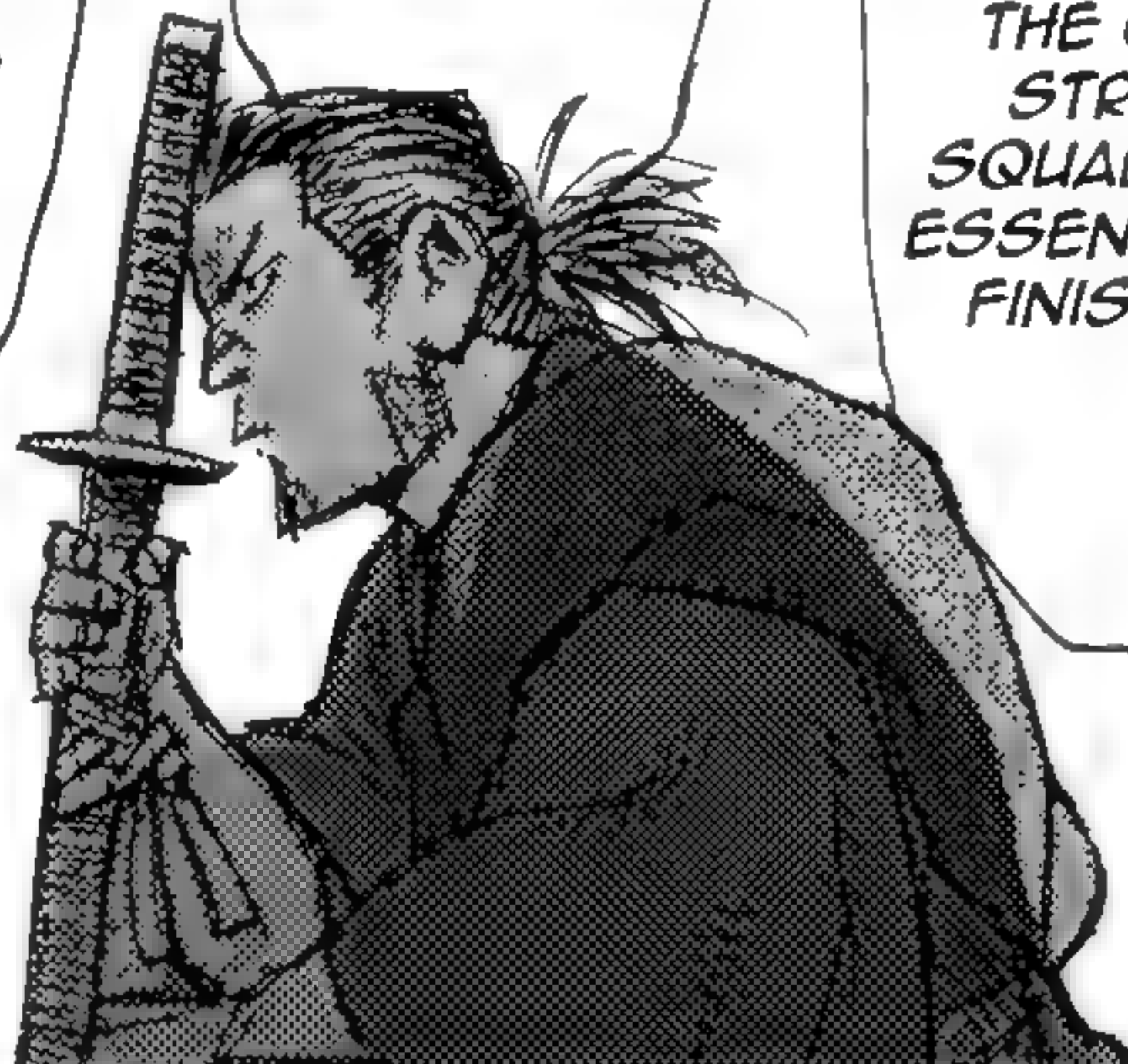
I DON'T
KNOW.

IF WE DO
RUN AWAY,
THEN THEY'LL
DEFINITELY
COME AFTER
US...

SO IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
WHETHER
OR NOT WE
DIE OR RUN
AWAY.

THE ONE
STRIKE
SQUAD ARE
ESSENTIALLY
FINISHED.

SINCE
IT SEEMS
LIKE THE
REINFORCE-
MENTS THAT
SHIMADA
WANTED
AREN'T
COMING,



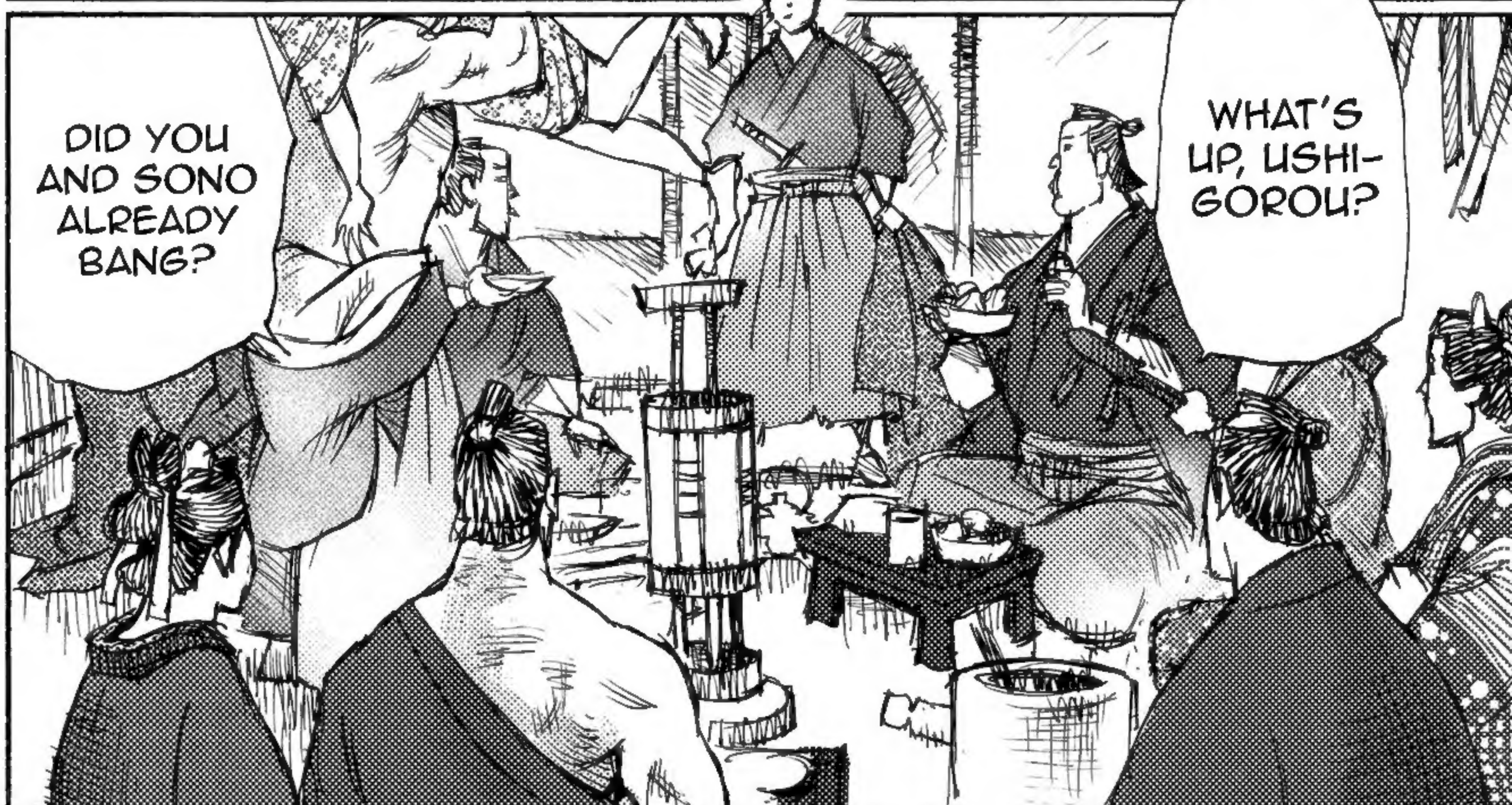
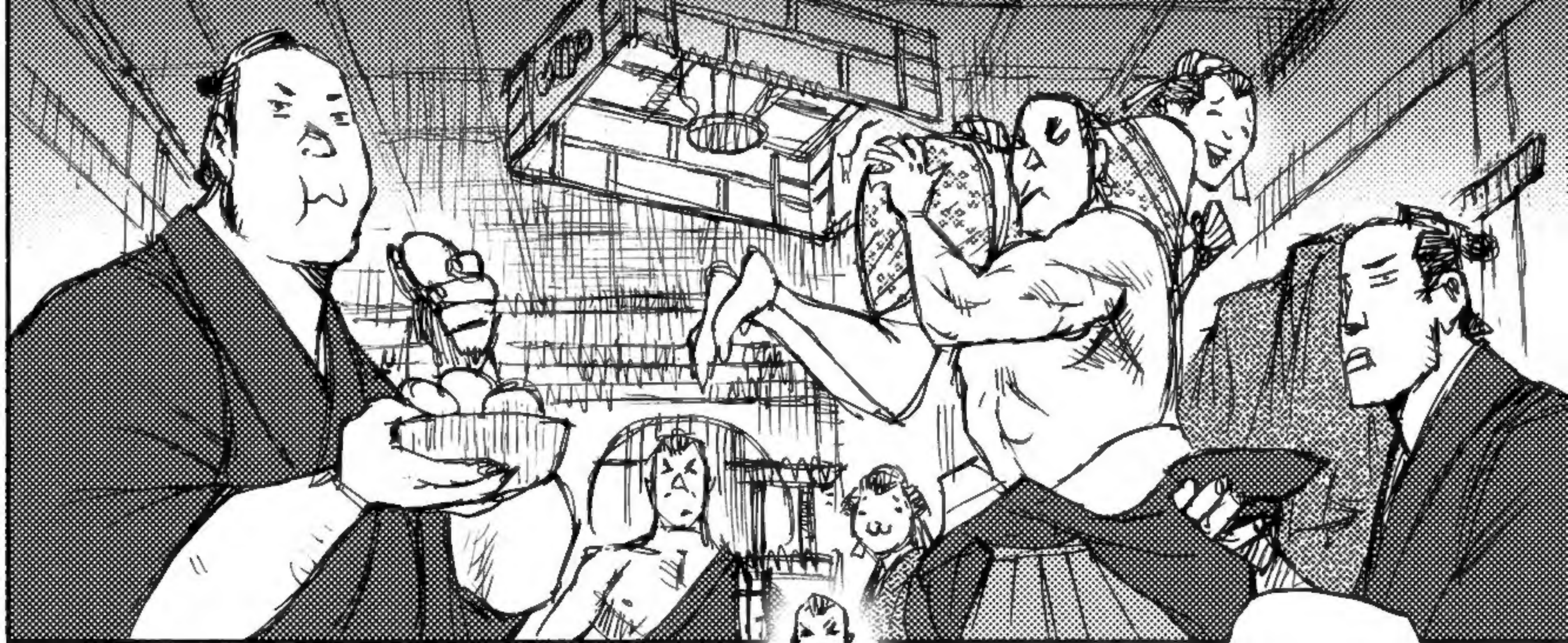
ICHIZOU AND
THE OTHERS ARE
IN HIGH SPIRITS
BUT, WITH A LITTLE
TIME TO THINK,
THEY SHOULD
REALISE THAT
RUNNING AWAY
IS THE BEST
THING TO DO.

IF WE WERE
TO RUN AWAY,
IT HAS TO BE
WITH EVERYONE.
ESPECIALLY
YONEKICHI,
I CAN'T LEAVE
HIM BEHIND.

I DON'T
WANT TO
DIE A
DOG'S
DEATH.

SO
RUNNING
AWAY IS
DEFINITELY
THE BEST
THING TO
DO.

THERE'S A
POSSIBILITY
THAT IMUTA
WILL BE WITH
THE SATSUMA
TOMORROW
NIGHT...



DID YOU
AND SONO
ALREADY
BANG?

WHAT'S
UP, USHI-
GOROU?



I NEED TO
TELL YOU
SOMETHING
IMPORTANT.

JUST
SHUT UP
AND
LISTEN
TO ME.



**I'VE GOT
SOMETHING
IMPORTANT
TO SAY!**

**JUST
SHUT UP
AND LISTEN
TO ME!**

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SOMETHING
THAT WE
DECIDED
OUR-
SELVES?

IS WHAT
WE'RE
GOING
TO DO...



IT'S MORE
FUN TO AIM
FOR THE
BIGGEST
CATCH
RIGHT?

IF
YOU'RE
GOING
TO GO
FISHING,



To be continued

いちげき 4

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